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TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1940

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SUICIDE SQUADS MADE FINNISH VICTORY POSSIBLE

Helsinki, To-day.

The Soviet defeat is said to be largely due to the use of great quantities of material taken from the Russian 163rd Division, which was cut to pieces on the same front a week ago.

The victory was made possible by "suicide squads" which destroyed the railway between Suomussalmi and Uhtua, virtually starving the Russians.

The latter became stuck in marshy ground near Parsamonselk and made a vain attempt to dig themselves in, surrounded by masses of mechanised material.

ALLIED AGREEMENTS WITH TURKEY

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

Various economic and financial Anglo-Franco-Turko agreements were signed yesterday afternoon at the Quai d'Orsay.

The exact contents were not published but it is known that the agreements aim at developing trade relations and to ensure easy means of payment.—Havas.

The Finns brought aircraft into play and dispersed Soviet concentrations.

Many Soviet tanks were sunk or wedged in the ice when the frozen surface of Lake Vuokkijaervi was bombed and hundreds of soldiers were drowned.

The Russians were slaughtered with Soviet machine-guns and artillery and bombed with Soviet bombs dropped from Soviet planes—all captured by the Finns a few days previously.—Reuter.

VOLUNTEERS FROM SWEDEN

Stockholm, To-day.

Groups of volunteers, including undergraduates, are leaving Sweden almost daily for Finland.

The volunteer recruiting bureau is considering training dog sleigh teams for the Arctic front.—Reuter.

BRITON ON MURDER CHARGE

Shanghai, To-day.

David Eckford, a Private in the Seaforth Highlanders, pleaded "not guilty" at the British Supreme Court this morning when he appeared on a charge of murdering another soldier, Lance-Corporal James Davis, also of the Sea-forths.

Eckford is alleged to have shot Davis dead with his service rifle while on duty on the border of the International Settlement.

The Crown Advocate, Mr. John McNeill, explained when the case opened this morning that the trial was being held in the British Supreme Court following the granting to full legal powers over the accused to the Court by Major-General Grasett, G.O.C. British troops in China.—Reuter.

GOLD PRODUCTION

Johannesburg, To-day.

Transvaal gold production last year reached an all-time record value, computed at 2,85,000,000, an increase of over 210,000,000 on the previous year.—Reuter.

THREE DEAD IN N. T. GUN BATTLE

A gun-battle between a party of police officers, under Mr. G. S. Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of Police, New Territories, and a heavily armed gang of robbers occurred near the border in the marshes at Lokmachau shortly after midnight to-day.

The police, it is understood, received advance information of the gang's plan to cross into British territory on a raid, and as a result of an ambush the gang were intercepted in the marshes at Lokmachau.

An exchange of revolver shots lasted almost an hour before the gang took to their heels and fled into Chinese territory.

Later the police found the bodies of three members of the gang. It is, however, believed that several others were seriously wounded. The police suffered no injuries.



This remarkable picture shows some of the havoc wrought by Soviet bombers in the city of Helsinki. Photo shows a car and part of a modern apartment house blazing furiously after being hit by incendiary bombs. (Copyright. By Air Mail.)

SIAMESE RICE FOR JAPAN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Bangkok, To-day.

It is understood that Mitsui and Mitsubishi have each ordered 500,000 tons of Siamese rice for delivery in 1940. The orders represent over half of Siam's annual exports.—Havas.

WEATHER. FORECAST:—North-east winds, moderate to fresh; fine to cloudy.

HITLER COUNCIL

Amsterdam, To-day.

Hitler has returned to Berlin after the Christmas holidays, says a Berlin despatch, and has begun conversations with political and military chiefs.

According to the "Telegraaf," the most urgent business is Germany's attitude to Sweden and the Finnish war, and concrete developments are expected in this connection shortly.—Reuter.

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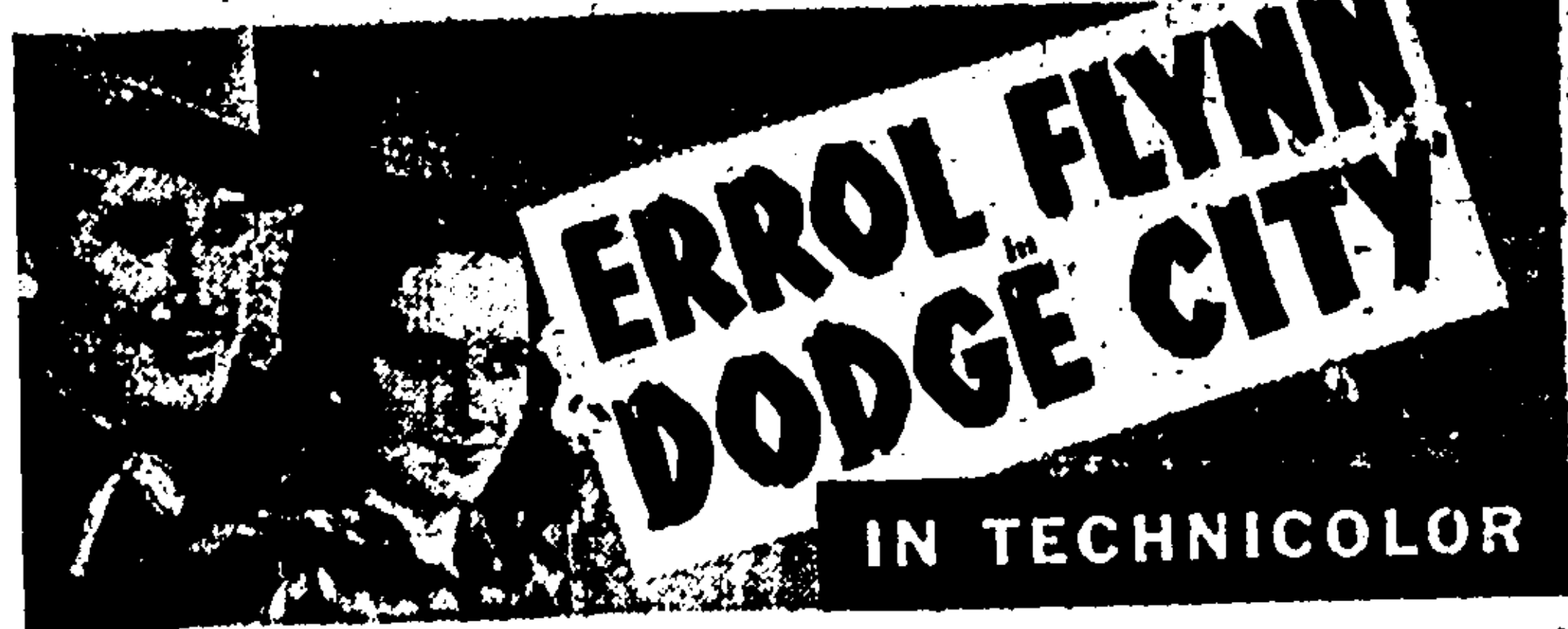


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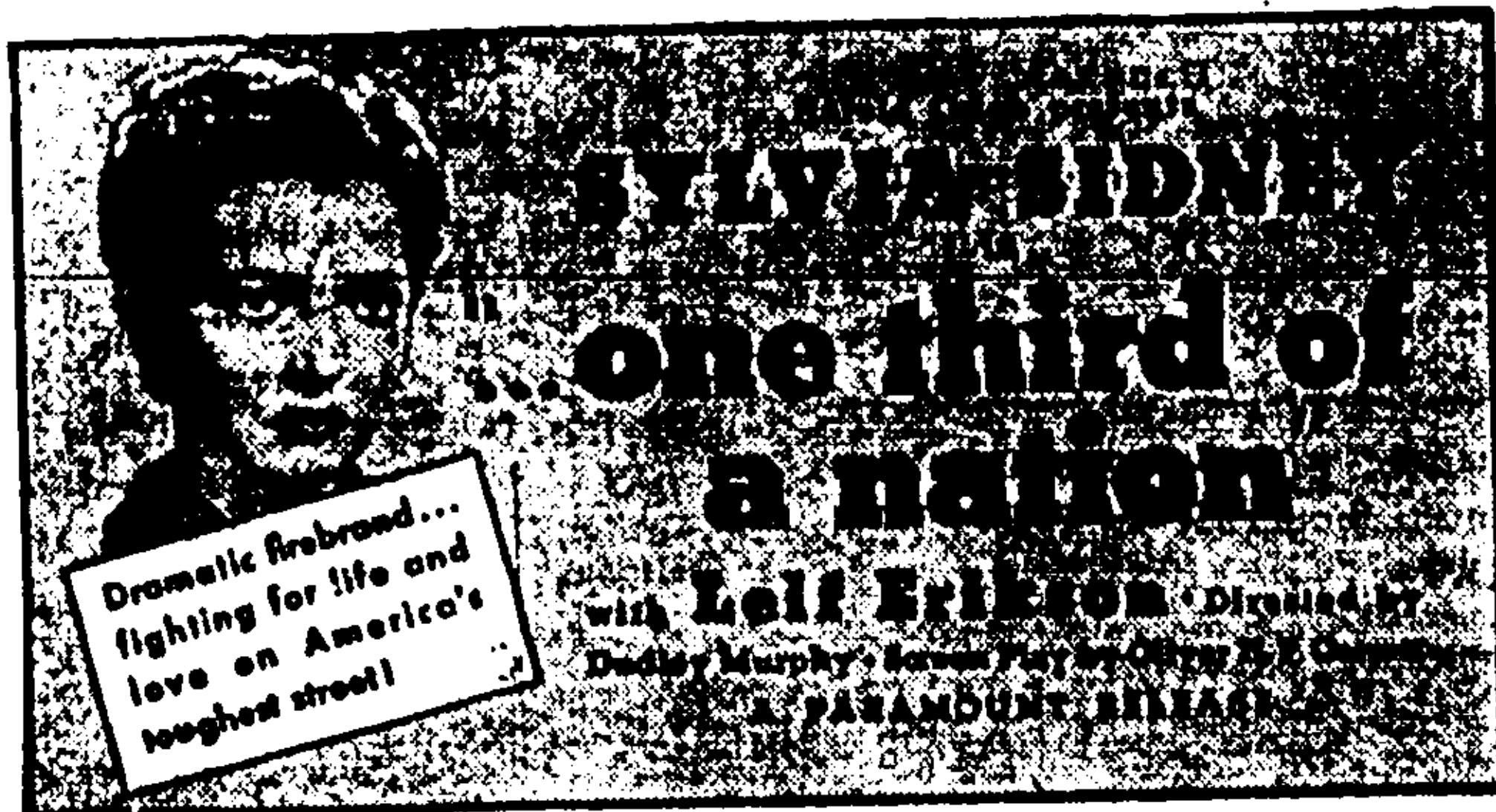
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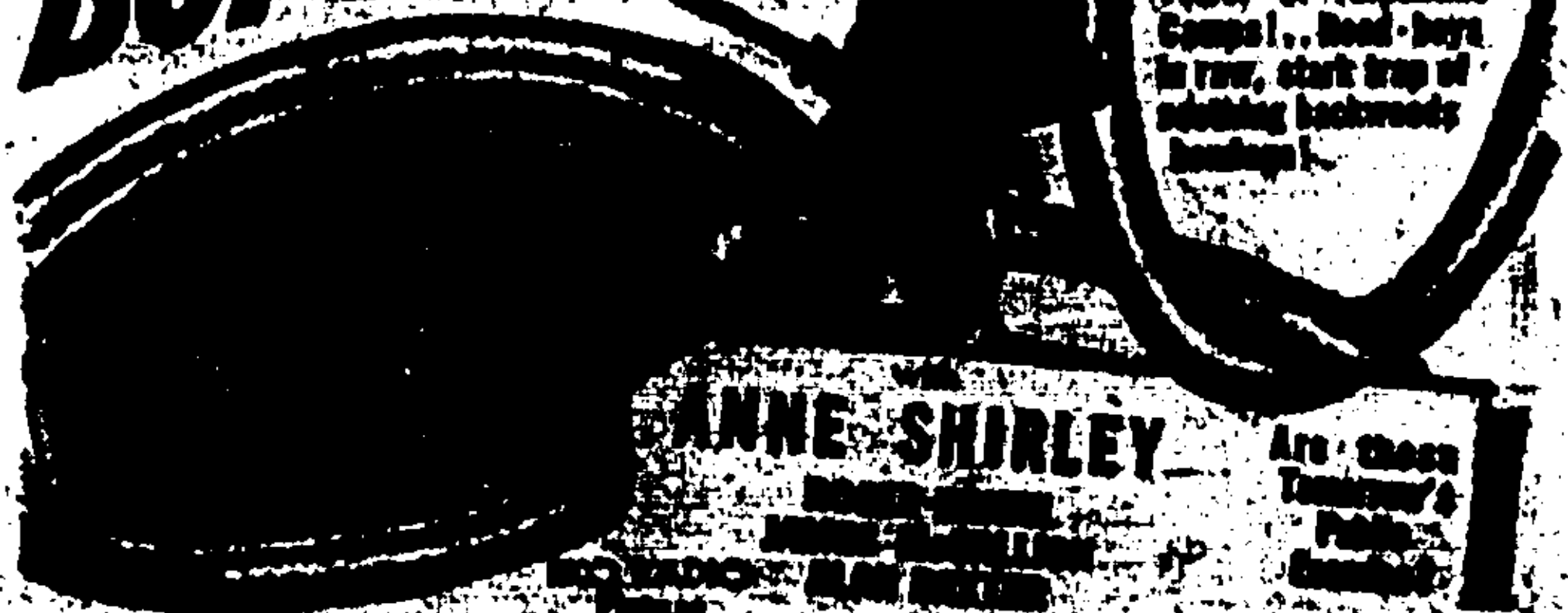


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TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW

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"LOST HORIZON"

CHINESE SCORE MORE SUCCESSES IN KWANGTUNG

Shiukwan, To-day.

SMASHING VICTORIES against the Japanese troops continue to be registered by the Chinese forces, according to latest messages received from different fronts in north Kwangtung last night.

Taking advantage of the Japanese hurried withdrawal from Yingtak and Yungyun last week, the Chinese threw some of their crack troops into action against the retreating Japanese.

The Japanese were unable to fight an effective rear-guard action and suffered very heavy losses on all fronts.

Outposts were isolated and annihilated by encircling movements by the Chinese, and the Japanese were reported still "retreating in confusion."

REINFORCEMENTS CONCENTRATE

Meanwhile, Chinese intelligence reports state that thousands of Japanese reinforcements, including mechanised units and aircraft, have arrived at Canton to support the Japanese northward push to Shiukwan.

The Japanese, it is claimed, have been driven some 20 miles from Yingtak and Yungyun.—Our Own Correspondent.

JAPANESE COLUMN INTERCEPTED

Shiukwan, To-day.
During its retreat from north Kwangtung on January 4 a Japanese column was intercepted by Chinese troops from the Tsengshing-Tsungfa sector.

A Japanese adviser, Kawada, se-

NAZI ATTITUDE TO NEUTRALS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Amsterdam, To-day.
It is reliably reported from Berlin that the German War Council is meeting to-day to establish Germany's final attitude towards neutrals.
Important decisions are expected.—Havas.

veral officers and hundreds of soldiers were killed and four field guns, and twenty-four machine-guns were seized.—Central News.

6 SHOWS
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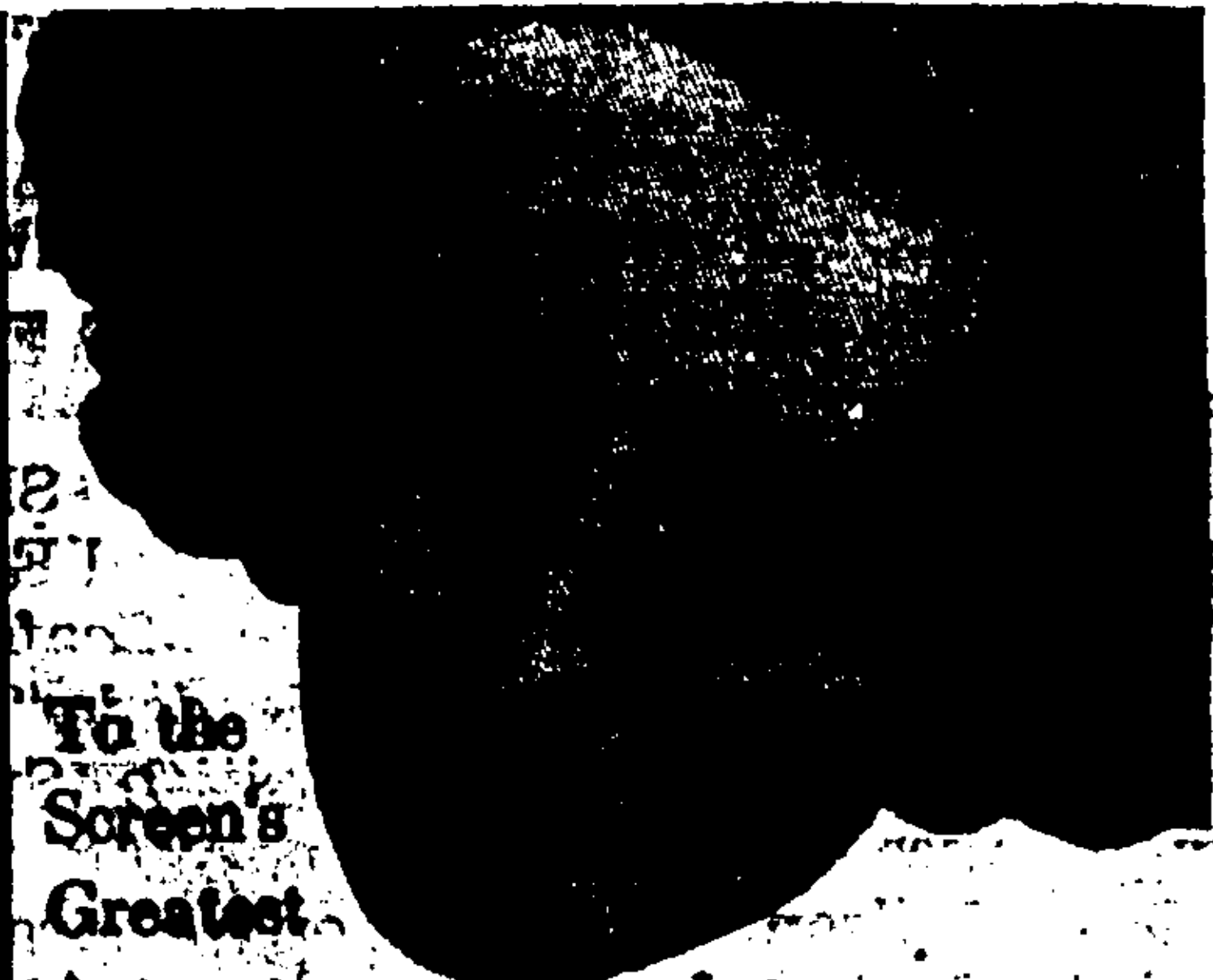
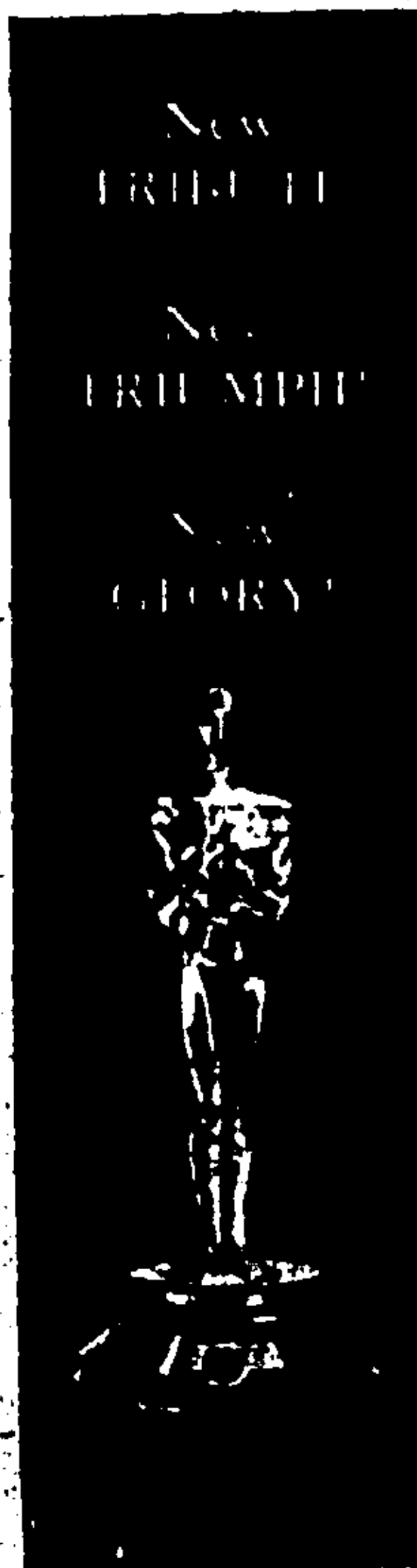
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TO-MORROW AND THURSDAY

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RAPE CASE APPEAL DISMISSED

AGIT SINGH, A CONSTABLE WHO WAS SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS HARD LABOUR AT THE NOVEMBER SESSIONS BY MR JUSTICE R. E. LINDSELL, THIS MORNING UNSUCCESSFULLY APPEALED AGAINST THE CONVICTION AND SENTENCE BEFORE A FULL COURT OF APPEAL COMPOSED OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR ATHOLL MACGREGOR (PRESIDENT) AND MR. JUSTICE J. A. FRASER.

The appellant was represented by Mr. Percy Chen, who also defended him at the trial in the other court, instructed by Mr. C. A. S. Russ, while Mr. T. J. Gould, Crown Counsel, was for the Crown.

The grounds of the appeal were that corroboration of the prosecutrix's evidence was insufficient in law and practice; that the verdict was against the weight of evidence given at the hearing, and, that there was a miscarriage of justice resulting from the misdirection of the jury by the trial judge.

In connection with the last point it was added that the trial judge in his summing up failed to point out that there was no evidence, nor even suggestion, that the prosecutrix was terrorised or paralysed by fear.

EXTENSION OF TIME

At the outset Mr. Chen said that an application was being made for an extension of the time required in which notice of appeal had to be given. In this case the appellant gave notice of appeal against the sentence within the prescribed period but on consulting his counsel was advised to also appeal against the verdict.

In reply, Mr. Gould said that the principal allowing such an application was that substantial reason must be given for the delay. In this case there was no such reason. The delay caused great inconvenience in that the notes of the trial judges had been destroyed and because of this the notes were now not so accurate as they might have been.

The Chief Justice said that the appeal against sentence was in time and the appeal against the verdict arose after consulting his legal advisers. He knew his rights in as much as the sentence was concerned. Leave would always be granted in reasonable circumstances and the Court was prepared to grant the application.

Mr. Chen then said that he was abandoning his first point.

CONSENT ARGUMENT

The case he said ended late at night with a great strain on judge and jury and was peculiar in that on the one hand the prosecution put forward that there was no consent by the woman and the defence based from the start their defence in that the woman was the kept mistress of accused. The crux of the matter was that there was consent.

Continuing Mr. Chen said that the prosecution had called medical evidence but that evidence was in favour of accused.

There were several very important discrepancies in the evidence both in the lower court and at the trial and these discrepancies had been passed over by the judge by saying they were the frailties of human memory.

Referring to the third point Mr. Chen said the evidence of the doctor showed that there were no bruises on the woman which should have been the case if a naked woman was struggling on the ground.

In conclusion the Chief Justice said that he was satisfied on reading the notes and evidence of the trial judge that there was no material point in law or evidence which he, the trial judge, did not put to the jury.

The conviction was upheld and on the question of sentence, as Mr. Chen was not able to give grounds, this was also upheld, the sentence to start from to-day.

FACTORY CLASH SEQUEL

As a sequel to the clash between Police and some 300 factory workers in Kowloon City on Saturday morning, 13 employees of the Chung Hwa Book Factory were this morning charged with disorderly conduct before Mr. E. Himsforth at the Kowloon Magistracy.

Nine of the 13 accused were further charged with intimidating T. T. Kong.

At the request of Inspector H. E. Rogers, all accused were remanded for a week.

Bail of \$500 each was allowed.

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BELISHA REVELATIONS

Blunt Charges By London "Evening Standard"

DIFFERENCES WITH GENERAL IRONSIDE

London, To-day.

MR. HORE-BELISHA'S resignation is the chief topic of yesterday's British press.

Both the "Daily Herald" and the "Manchester Guardian" ask Mr. Chamberlain to lighten our darkness in connection with the resignation.

The "Daily Herald" says that if the resignation was purely for personal reasons, the Prime Minister will have to satisfy the nation that they could not have been composed in some other way.

RUNNING FIGHT WITH U-BOAT

Rio de Janeiro, To-day.

The Royal Mail liner Highland Patriot, 14,000 tons, has arrived here safely after a running fight with a U-boat.

The ship was attacked by the submarine, which fired two torpedoes; both missed.

The ship's gun was promptly manned and the gunners continued firing when conditions permitted for some two hours.

The U-boat then disappeared. — Reuter.

CREW LOSE PETS IN EXPLOSION

London, To-day.

All of the crew of 34 of the London cargo steamer Cedrington Court (5,160 tons), sunk by a mine off the south coast, were saved although the vessel sank within ten minutes of the explosion.

Five of the survivors were taken to hospital but only one detained. He was on lookout and was blown twenty feet into the air by the force of the explosion, landing on deck with a broken leg.

The crew's pets, four monkeys, five canaries and a cat, went down with the ship. — British Wireless.

CANADIAN G. O. C.

London, To-day.

The leader of the Canadian Army Overseas, Major-General Andrew McNaughton, and his two senior officers were entertained on Sunday by the Duke of Connaught at his Surrey residence.

His Royal Highness, who is a former Governor-General of Canada, showed an active interest in the welfare and training of the Canadian troops.

Major-General McNaughton said that the British authorities had done their utmost to make the Canadians comfortable and to help with their training. — Reuter.

On the other hand, "The Times" takes a different view.

There has not been one word of criticism by the Army of Mr. Hore-Belisha's reforms, it says. The more natural explanation is that a series of minor differences, unconcerned with the war, gradually brought the Prime Minister to the point where he felt that a change would make for smoother work in the Department and in the Cabinet.

CHARGES BY "EVENING STANDARD"

Discussing Mr. Hore-Belisha's resignation, the "Evening Standard" bluntly charges that it came about as a result of his rebuke of a senior officer, arousing resentment among the higher ranks, as the junior ranks knew about it.

Also, says the "Evening Standard," Mr. Hore-Belisha had differences of opinion with General Ironside, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, over the state of the defences of the British lines in France. — Reuter.

** It will be recalled Mr. Hore-Belisha recently completed an extensive tour of the B.E.F. position in France.

BRITISH SHIP SUNK

London, To-day.

The British ship Cedrington Court sank off the south-east coast of England on Sunday after an explosion. The entire crew of 34 was rescued. — Reuter.

** Classed A-1 at Lloyds, the Cedrington Court (ex Cabotia, ex War Viper) was built by Harland and Wolff at Belfast in 1918. Owned by the Court Line, she was a vessel of 5,160 tons, fitted for oil fuel, and was just over 400 feet long. She had two decks.

INVITATION TO LABOUR

London, To-day.

The Labour Party and the Trades Union General Council of Finland have invited the British Labour movement to send a leading representative to Finland to study the situation there. — Reuter.

SUBMARINE AFFAIR

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Stockholm, To-day.

Replying to the Swedish demarche, the Soviet has promised to inquire into the Swedish statements in connection with the alleged illegal activities of Soviet submarines in the Gulf of Bothnia, and the attack on the Swedish steamer "Tennis". — Havas.

BELISHA TO MAKE STATEMENT

London, To-day.

It is expected that Mr. Hore-Belisha will make a statement in Commons to-day week. It is believed that Mr. Chamberlain will speak after him to explain the Cabinet changes.

What he says will probably depend on what Mr. Hore-Belisha says.

The Labour Party is to wait until it hears their statements. — Reuter.

SWEDEN'S ATTITUDE ON FINLAND

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

LONDON, TO-DAY.

SWEDEN'S FUTURE ROLE IN THE FINNISH-SOVIET CONFLICT WILL PROBABLY BE DECIDED WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS WHEN PARLIAMENT RECONVENES ON THURSDAY.

The Swedish Parliament will decide the exact nature of Swedish assistance to Finland in the future.

The Government is at present conferring with the various party leaders on the subject. — Havas.

RATIONING COMES INTO FORCE IN BRITAIN

London, To-day.

THE MINISTRY OF FOOD has announced four reasons for the rationing system, which came into force yesterday.

Firstly, it prevents waste of food. We must not ask our sailors to bring unnecessary food cargoes at the risk of their lives.

Secondly, it increases the war effort.

Reduction in purchases of food abroad releases ships for bringing other imports.

Thirdly, it divides supplies equally.

NO DEPRIVATION

Fourthly, it prevents uncertainty. Properly regarded, the system is not a deprivation but a convenience.

With quantities assured and alternatives available, the diet of the nation will lose nothing in food values, while the relief of shipping will free it for cargoes vital to victory.

PUBLIC STIMULATED

Had the public needed a stimulus to cheerful acceptance of the plan it was found in Mr. Morrison's plea that we should not ask our seafaring men to add to the risks they are hourly taking with such fine courage by bringing us excess food. — Reuter.

RELAXING PRECAUTION

London, To-day.

A further example of modifications of wartime restrictions which experience has justified is contained in the announcement that some of the galleries of the Victoria and Albert Museum are reopening to the public. The library of the Museum has been open to readers since November 13.

While nearly all the most valuable works of art in the Museum have either been removed to places of greater safety or otherwise protected, a considerable number of others remain which can be displayed in relatively safe parts of the building. — British Wireless.

AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN TOKYO?

Canberra, To-day.

The Premier, Mr. R. G. Menzies, stated yesterday that the Australian Government is immediately considering the question of diplomatic representation in Tokyo. — Reuter.

AMERICAN CHINA WAR HEROINE

Chungking, To-day.

A pretty 20-year old American girl, Miss Betty Graham, of Seattle, Washington, is driving an International Red Cross lorry between the major cities in Central China, braving the dangers of the Sino-Japanese hostilities.

After arriving in Chungking on Sunday night, Miss Graham will be on the road again to-morrow, when her lorry leaves with medical supplies for Kweiyang, capital of Kweichow.

She left Shanghai last November and travelled alone from Ningpo to Kweilin and later to Kunming and Kweiyang.

ARRESTED AS SPY

In 1936, Miss Graham was arrested in Manchuria as a spy and sentenced to a long term of imprisonment.

The sentence was rescinded although, as she recalled in an interview here, "I enthusiastically offered to go to jail."

In 1937, she made the trip from India to Europe overland via Afghanistan.

"I want to call China my home," she said. "I expect to stay here a long time and concentrate on learning the language." — Reuter.

RATIONING FOR TROOPS

London, To-day.

Soldiers, sailors and airmen on leave in England will have much larger ration allowances than civilians.

The latter are entitled to 12 ounces of sugar, four ounces of bacon and ham, and four ounces of butter weekly, whereas members of the forces on leave may have 21 ounces, 14 ounces and seven ounces, respectively, of these commodities. — British Wireless.

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13. WHO'S WHO

14. ADDENDA

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Potted-Best-Seller Serial: Ninth Day THE HOPKINS MANUSCRIPT

By R. C. SHERRIFF

Who Wrote "Journey's End"

The fallen moon brought vast wealth in oil and metals to the world. But it brought the senseless misery of war, for human nature is unchangeable.

I was bewildered by the news, numbed by a fear out of all proportion to the meagre and casually delivered announcement, but from my bewilderment rose one dreadful conviction: "It has come—it has come . . . I knew that it would come!"

My memory rushed back to the party at Dr. Cranley's house three months ago—to Major Jagger. I saw it all once more as vividly as if it had happened an hour ago—and yet I had striven with all my might to drown it in reassuring thoughts of future happiness. I knew now what, despite myself, I had striven to ridicule. I knew that every word that Major Jagger had said that night was true . . . desperately true . . .

I should have seen through the veiled references in broadcast speeches: the hurried comings and goings of Ministers to The Hague—the urgent meetings of the Cabinet, always ending with: "Negotiations are proceeding well." "There is no question of serious disagreement." "The matters involved are naturally very complicated and need further discussion." Always the note at the end: "All is well—all is well!"

Deep within me I had known the truth: in the depths of the night I had known it.

"This is the National Station. The Prime Minister."

I had not heard John Rawlings speak before.

The new Parliament had voted him Premier as a result of some good work he had done in organising the City of Oxford as the provisional seat of government. But while John Rawlings proved himself an excellent administrator it was whispered that he was a weak negotiator and no match for the greedy opportunists who seized power abroad directly the wealth of the moon became known. And now his voice came to us, thin and desperately

tired.

"It is vitally important that every citizen shall understand the crisis in which the British Empire stands to-day."

"The moon's position in the Atlantic Ocean has blocked our sea routes and isolated the British Isles from its Colonies and Dominions. Without a corridor to the ocean we shall be dependent upon bringing our vital supplies through the lands of foreigners who can cut them off and starve us at their will."

"Before the moon's wealth was known to Europe, no nation raised objection to our corridor; all recognised it as our life-line, and agreed to make it British territory. But new leaders have risen abroad, who crave for the lion's share of the new wealth. They deny our right to a corridor: they reject our guarantee to give them freedom to cross it, on the grounds that we might fortify it and one day claim the whole moon as our own."

"Britain stands to-day at its greatest crisis: either we must submit to the greed of others, or we must stand firm and assert ourselves, if necessary, by force of arms. No citizen of this proud, free country will hesitate in his choice; any sacrifice is better than servitude . . . I and my Ministers are working day and night in our search for an honourable and peaceful solution . . . we do so in the knowledge that every man and woman of Britain will support us . . . will give their lives, if need be, in the sacred cause of freedom . . ."

I have written nothing in these past three days. I have been ill with some kind of fever that must have come to me from the stagnant mists that rise from the undrained marshes of St. James's Park.

The last pages of my story will be a desperate race—a desperate struggle against a weakness that consumes me day by day. I am writing with my vacuum flask beside me. As each page is finished I roll it and place it in the flask. Should I feel the end suddenly upon me, my last act will be to seal my flask in order that posterity may receive at least the pages that I completed up to the moment of my collapse.

On the morning after the Premier's speech the newspapers told us the whole fantastic, pitiful story.

The dispute over the "British corridor" emerged now as a mere side-issue to the chaotic problems that were tearing Europe to pieces.

The poor, bewildered people of the nations knew little and cared less



"An enemy airplane scattered pamphlets . . . they were addressed to the people of Britain from 'The Confederated States of Europe.'"

about their "rights" upon the moon. All they desired was leave to rebuild their houses, to grow their corn and to graze their cattle, to feed their pigs and to sit in the evening sunlight when the day's work was done. All that they desired was peace, and the dignity of quietness.

But their "leaders" in central Europe demanded free and uninterrupted approach to the territories which they had claimed upon the moon, for as Robin once pointed out to me, central Europe was cut off by the territories between them and the moon lands.

One evening, early in July, a gleam of hope emerged. John Rawlings, our Premier—the sole surviving statesman of the "old school"—spoke over the radio again. He announced that he was proposing a sweeping new Plan to all nations concerned. To end the drift towards war he proposed that every nation should give up all individual claim to the moon and its wealth; that the moon should be explored and its wealth exploited by a Permanent International Commission; that the wealth be pooled and divided among nations in fair proportion with their needs and population.

There was a week of silence, and then came the news that every "leader" in Europe had rejected the plan as "humiliating."

Rawlings's Government fell—Major Jagger became Prime Minister.

Two days later we heard that fighting had broken out in Normandy, upon the north-eastern fringes of the moon. The war was on.

Military historians, in days to come, may be able to give sense and logic to that tangled fruitless war.

The news we received was heavily censored. We were told of "magnificent victories" and "astonishing progress."

But that was in the summer time. It was clear that Jagger had taken Europe by surprise and carried all before him in the opening campaign.

But one morning in the autumn an enemy airplane scattered pamphlets over the district, and a copy came down in our garden. It was addressed to "The People of Britain" by "The Confederated States of Europe." It told us not to lose hope, because the Confederated States had allied together in order to destroy Jagger and release the British people from the tolls of a mad usurper who was leading us to destruction.

Throughout that winter our fragile civilisation clung together by a mira-

cle. There were hunger and misery: insistent calls for men.

"The Confederated States" swept our army from the Corridor, and Britain faced defeat.

But by Christmas we learned that the Confederation had collapsed. The leaders of it had come within grasping distance of the wealth upon the moon, but as they stretched forth to clasp it they began to knock each other's hands away. They began to argue about their rights once more: they began to fight. By June the fighting had spread through the limbs of Europe like disease through a weak, resistless body.

Autumn came once more, and with it the day I dreaded. Robin came to me as I was closing the hatches of my chicken houses. He stood there for a little while, talking of casual things. Then he turned his head away with a characteristic little movement that always betrayed him in embarrassment.

"I don't know what you'll think, Uncle—but I've got to go," he said. "I wrote last month . . . for a commission in the Infantry Army. The reply came this afternoon."

I held the thin, shabby strip of paper in my hand. "Robin Parker: appointed lieutenant—the 14th Expeditionary Battalion."

"Robin! . . ." I began, but he stopped me with a weary, impatient gesture of his hand.

"I know. I know exactly what you're going to say. We agreed that war was insane—wicked—that our job was to stay here. It isn't like that any more. It may sound silly and sentimental, but I still believe terribly that we are the people who must get this beastly thing put right."

Many a time I have regretted my passionate outburst. I was not angry with Robin: I was furious at the senseless folly of it all: furious at the impotent devilishness of it.

"You're a fool!" I shouted. "A senseless young fool! D'you realise that the only way to save a few shreds of humanity upon earth is for people like us to stand firm and carry on! D'you think you'll save women and children from starvation by going off and playing soldiers with a lot of other fools!"

I stopped. I was exhausted. I sobbed for breath.

Robin sighed—and smiled rather queerly. He took my arm and we walked back to our house.

It was in the week after Christmas—on New Year's Eve—when Pat said "good-bye" to me, too.

An urgent call had been made for girls prepared to serve as nurses with the Expeditionary Force in Europe. Heavy fighting all that winter had made the need a desperate one, and Pat was going with her friend Joan.

(Continued on Page 12)

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Italo-Hungarian Pact Directed Against Reds

Aims Of Count Ciano's "Venice Policy"

BARRING ROAD TO BALKANS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.

Diplomatic circles qualify as absurd rumours alleging that Italy and Hungary have concluded an alliance directed against Germany and Russia.

They point out that it is improbable that a definite agreement covering a case of Soviet aggression is already concluded and, furthermore, than when such an agreement materializes it will most probably not cover German aggression, as Rome is not prepared to take a stand against the Reich.

Political circles are of the opinion that the Csaky/Ciano conversations served only as the beginning of diplomatic activity and that Italy is at present attempting to eliminate Rumano-Hungarian friction, recommending moderation on both sides.

Noticeable also is that Hungary's attitude to the Soviet has become somewhat milder lately, probably for fear of German anger.

Finally, another element enables them to take their time to complete parleys. The Soviet menace to the Balkans is not imminent.

The development of the Finnish conflict leads Moscow to concentrate its military resources in the north, while Soviet diplomacy appears to be taking a new trend, attempting to persuade neutrals that the Soviet has no other ambitions than the settlement of the Finnish conflict.

WAY OPENED

In Paris, French political circles are of the opinion that the Venice parleys have only opened the way to more extensive consultations.

It cannot be doubted that Counts Ciano and Csaky agreed on the need to bar the way to Bolshevism, but Hungary can carry out such a policy only if she knows that she can rely on immediate Italian help.

A quick extension of such help is possible only if Yugoslavia agrees to the passage of Italian troops through her territory.

YUGOSLAV ATTITUDE

The present state of Yugoslavia's relations with Italy and Hungary leads to the belief that an agreement is possible and the question will probably be examined in the near future.

On the other hand, the Venice parleys proved that the formation of a Balkan bloc is impossible at present, as the claims of the Balkan nations, one on another, are not satisfied and the "Venice Policy" probably aims at preventing Third Powers from taking advantage of Balkan divergences.

KING CAROL'S STAND

The desire to bring about a lessening of tension in the Balkans leads Italy to negotiate with Rumania for an elaboration of the solution of the Transylvanian problem, possibly Dobruja.

King Carol's speeches asserting that Rumania's frontiers are fixed make the task difficult but it is considered not impossible that joint Italian-Yugoslav efforts may lead to some sort of Hungaro-Rumanian modus vivendi.—Havas.

CIANO TO VISIT BUDAPEST

London, To-day.

Count Ciano, the Italian Foreign Minister, is expected to visit Budapest in April or May, according to Budapest radio.—Reuter.



Count Ciano, Italian Foreign Minister, who is to visit Budapest following his conversations with the Hungarian Foreign Minister in Venice.

NEW YORK REPORT

Rome, To-day.

Nothing is known in Rome concerning the conclusion of a defensive military alliance between Italy and Hungary, as reported in a New York wireless broadcast, which said that Count Ciano, the Italian Foreign Minister, and Count Csaky, the Hungarian Foreign Minister, had agreed to such a pact during their week-end talks in Venice.

The New York wireless quoted a highly authoritative source in Budapest for its statement.

It declared that Italy would undertake to go to the assistance of Hungary in the event of aggression against her by Russia or Germany.

The announcer added that Count Csaky would submit the proposed pact to his Government and then return to Italy.—Reuter.

JAPS. SHANGHAI SEARCH

Shanghai, To-day.

The residence of Professor Tseng Chin-chi, of the Chinam University, was searched yesterday by Japanese police. Professor Tseng was absent at the time.

The Japanese left without making any seizures. — Our Own Correspondent.

LESS UNEMPLOYED IN BRITAIN

London, To-day.

Registered unemployed on December 11 totalled 1,361,000, which is 41,000 less than on November 13 and 46,980 less than on December 12, 1938.—Reuter.

CURRENCY CHARGE DISMISSED

Appearing before Mr. R. Edwards at the Central Magistracy this morning, Hung Cheung-mo, 48, shop manager, was charged with importing unmanifested cargo into the Colony on Saturday last, by the s.s. Hoi Ching.

It was alleged that defendant had in his possession two cases of banknotes consisting of \$54,000 in Chinese currency, when he landed in Hong Kong.

Mr. M. K. Lo represented the accused and said his client came from Kwong Chow Wan; the money was the sole property of Hung and could not be called cargo.

Mr. Edwards dismissed the charge. Mr. A. W. Grimmitt, senior Revenue Officer, conducted the prosecution.

Sergeant Billingham, of the 8th Heavy Battery, Royal Artillery, informed the Police that cigarettes, beer and hair cream to the value of \$98, were stolen from Devil's Peak quarters yesterday.

TWO FACTS TO BE RECOGNISED

Washington, To-day.

"The people of the United States recognize two facts to-day. The first is that the world outside our hemisphere is in a really bad shape," declared President Roosevelt yesterday, speaking at the annual "Hundred-dollar Plate" dinner of the Democratic Party.

(The function derives its name from the \$100 Party members have to pay to attend)

This is not a matter for pessimism or optimism, but a matter for realism.

A BIG FACT

"It is a fact so big that few people have grasped the meaning—so big in effect on the future of the world that all our little partisan squabbles are shameful in the light thereof.

"The second fact is that we have made great gains at home in our own economic prosperity and the security of individual citizens."—Reuter.

HAI ALAI IN MANILA

Manila, To-day.

The 400,000 peso issue of the new Philippine Hai Alai Corporation, which is capitalised at 1,000,000 pesos, has been substantially oversubscribed.

The list, however, remains open until 5 o'clock this afternoon.

Keenest demand for the issue came from Shanghai.—Reuter.

Hai Alai, one of the fastest games in the world, originated in Spain. It has gained wide popularity in Shanghai and Tientsin.

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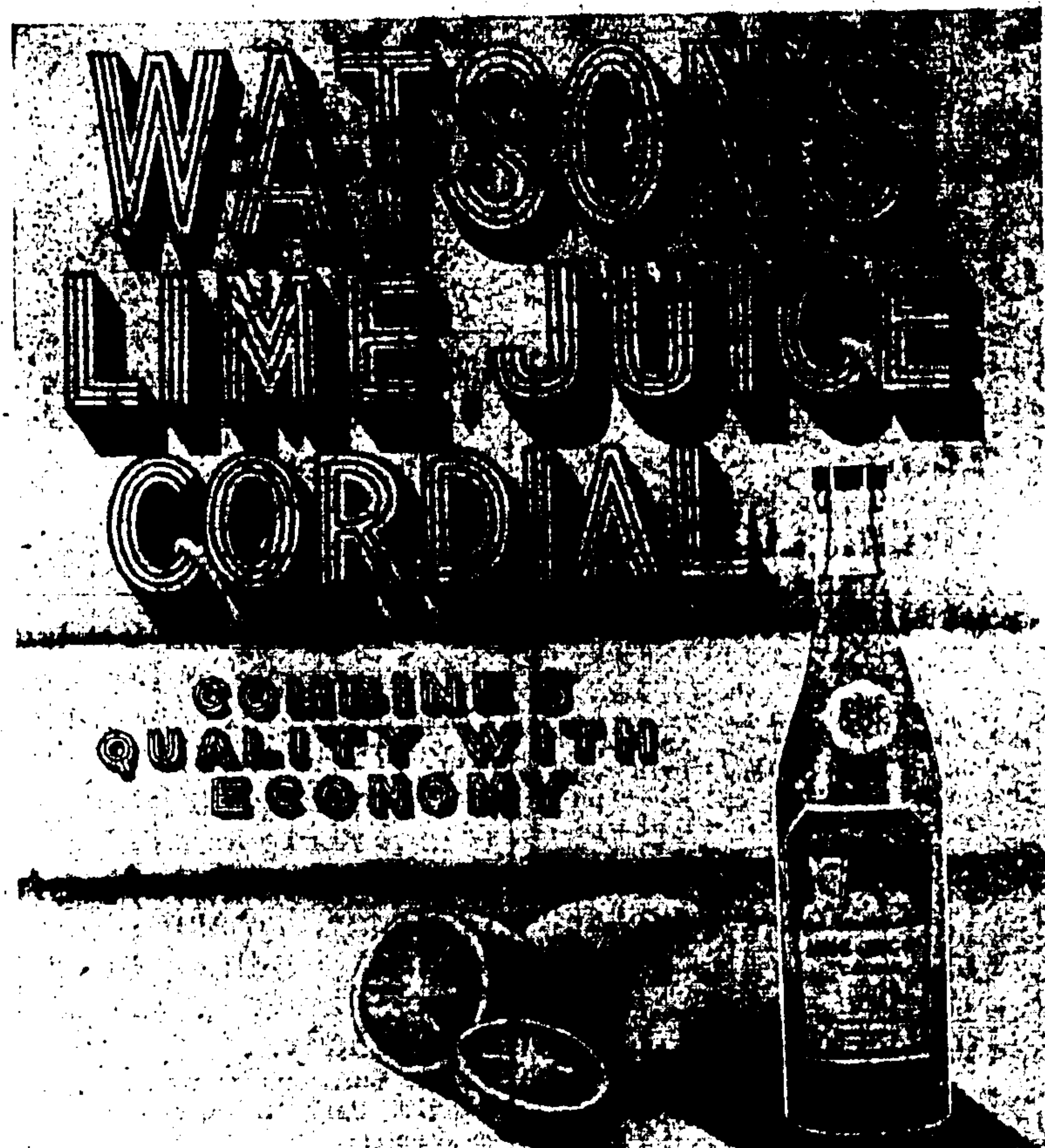
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WHITEAWAY'S

CLEARING THE WAY FOR BALKAN AGREEMENT

Rome, To-day.

SIGNOR GAYDA, WHO generally expresses the official Italian view, gives a hint, in an article in "Giornale d'Italia," that Rumania will consider the advisability of coming to terms in her territorial differences with Hungary.

Reason, he says, is the European situation.

Signor Gayda continues that the proposal to Hungary to settle the problems pacifically cannot create a pretext for the other Powers concerned to avoid sincere examination and a reasonable solution of the problems awaiting settlement.

It would be a fatal mistake, he writes, not to eliminate those problems which are still open to solution by just means. — Reuter.

SPREAD OF WAR FEAR

Rome, To-day.

The determination of Italy to prevent the war spreading south to the Balkans and Mediterranean is expressed by Signor Gayda in the semi-official organ "Giornale d'Italia."

Gayda declares:—

"Everyone should note that Hungary stands at Italy's side in the policy the latter is planning and in the methods she intends to adopt for her development.

"At the same time, Italy stands on Hungary's side as far as special problems of foreign policy are concerned."

ADVICE TO RUMANIA

The writer, who is recognised to be Mussolini's mouthpiece, then asks Rumania to consider the advisability of coming to terms in her territorial differences with Hungary in view of the European situation.

It would be a fatal mistake, he states, not to eliminate those problems which are still open to solution. — Reuter.

WARNING BY A.R.P. CHIEF

GLASGOW, TO-DAY.

THE CIVIL DEFENCE ORGANISATIONS FORMED THE SUBJECT OF A SPEECH HERE BY THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM, SIR JOHN ANDERSON.

What is called the lull may well be the lull before the storm, he said, and a wise man sees that his house is in order before the storm breaks over it.

The Civil Defence Organisations were by no means excessive, considering the tasks they may have to meet when the attack from the air comes. He was more concerned with whether or not they were sufficient.

By the end of this month, 2,000,000 steel shelters will have been provided, affording protecting to over 11,000,000 people in the most vulnerable areas. — Reuter.

GERMAN PRESSURE ON NEUTRALS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Berne, To-day.

Foreign observers in Berlin are expecting the renewal of German pressure in neutral capitals, the "Basler Nachrichten" reports.

This belief is based on the increased frequency of warnings against neutrals in the German press, while the Netherlands official declaration, asserting determination to pursue an independent foreign policy, has been particularly commented on. — Hayes.

NAZIS STOP ITALIAN AID FOR FINLAND

London, To-day.

Germany now admits having stopped Italian aeroplanes from proceeding through to Finland.

According to the Associated Press correspondent, the Italian planes were sent by rail to a Baltic port, their destination being Finland. The number is not known, but there are a number of Italian railway cars at the port.

The Nazi attitude seems to have been determined by Soviet pressure. The Nazi Government would not be able to co-operate with the Italian axis partner in aiding Finland without violent objections from the new ally—Soviet Russia. — Reuter.

FROM ITALY

Brussels, To-day.

A large quantity of war material destined for Finland has been stopped by Germany, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Belga agency.

At first sight, the correspondent says, the material seems to have originated from Italy.

So far German circles have given no political or legal justification for the seizure. — Reuter.

FRENCH GUNS SHELL GERMANY

PARIS, TO-DAY.

ACCORDING TO THE FRENCH WIRELESS, CALM ON THE WESTERN FRONT IS ALMOST UNIVERSAL EXCEPT WEST OF THE VOSGES, WHERE TWO NAZI PATROLS WERE REPULSED AFTER HEAVY HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING.

Individual acts of courage receive recognition in the Official Journal, in which are named 23 awards for gallantry.

One N.C.O. gets both the Military Medal and the Croix de Guerre. His unit inflicted heavy losses on a German unit; the N.C.O. then led a counter-attack in which five prisoners were taken. — Reuter.

HEAVY GUNFIRE

Berlin, To-day.

The official Nazi news agency states there has been more lively artillery fire and reconnaissance activity on both sides on the western front.

The report adds that French artillery bombarded the Perl and the upper Perl regions as well as a wide valley north-east of Ritzingen. — Reuter.

ELECTRIC CABLE STOLEN

The theft of a huge length of electric cable has been reported to the Police by the Army authorities.

C.Q.M.S. Buckle, of the Royal Signals, has stated that between December 16 and January 9 some 2,000 yards of electric cable, to the value of £250, was stolen from the Slakko Road.

SMASHING FINNISH VICTORY THIRD RUSSIAN DIVISION IS ELIMINATED

AMERICAN AID FOR FINLAND

Washington, To-day.
The United States Government has notified the League of Nations that it prefers to extend aid to Finland direct, rather than through any general co-operative scheme.

This was in reply to a League communication asking the nations of the world how far they would go in the matter.—Reuter.

JAPANESE ARMY AND NEW REGIME

PEIPING, TO-DAY.
THE STATUS OF THE NORTH CHINA REGIME WOULD BE THE SAME EVEN AFTER THE FORMATION OF THE PROPOSED CENTRAL REGIME, DECLARED THE JAPANESE ARMY SPOKESMAN HERE YESTERDAY.

He added that the "North China Army" was convinced they must aid in the formation of the new regime.

There is no possibility of a withdrawal of the Japanese Army from China, at least for the time being, the spokesman added.

There will be a special status provided for Mongolia and North China under the projected government. — Reuter.

SHIP'S CAPTAIN FINED

Captain M. Gaggino, Master of the s.s. Cambay Prince, was fined \$100 by Commander G. F. Hole in the Marine Court this morning for unlawfully allowing his ship to be loaded so as to submerge the centre of the disc of the Plimsoll Line.

The offence took place in the harbour yesterday.

Captain Gaggino pleaded guilty and said he had been carrying heavy loads since October.

Commander Hole warned defendant against loading his ship so as to place it in danger.

Helsinki, To-day.
ANOTHER SMASHING victory near Suomussalmi is claimed in a special war communique issued yesterday afternoon. The entire 44th Division, of over 15,000 men, has been "put out of action."

This is the third Soviet division to be eliminated, the 163rd having been wiped out a few days ago. Over 1,000 prisoners were taken, as well as a large quantity of war material — including 102 guns, 43 tanks, hundreds of armoured cars, lorries and field kitchens and 1,000 horses. Clearing up operations and the collection of spoils continue.

Fighting has been very heavy here in the past few days, but the Finnish General Staff gave no details until the battle was won.

On the Karelian Isthmus, the temperature has dropped 33 deg. Fah. below zero, and the Finns have captured many Russians who fell unconscious owing to the cold.—Reuter.

ON SUOMUSSALMI FRONT

Helsinki, To-day.
A Finnish communique claims a second striking victory in the destruction of a Soviet division on the road from Suomussalmi to the Soviet frontier.

In addition to taking 1,000 prisoners the Finns captured much material, including tanks and armoured cars.

The communique says that in the recent fighting the main object has been to repulse the 44th Russian division, and this has now been achieved, the enemy's main forces having been destroyed.

The booty captured includes 102 guns, 43 tanks, 10 armoured cars, aeroplanes, 278 motor vehicles of various kinds, over 1,000 horses and 47 field-kitchens.—Reuter.

INDIAN HELP FOR QUAKE VICTIMS

Lahore, To-day.
The sum of £1,500 has been collected at a public meeting in Lahore for the Turkish earthquake victims.

A message of sympathy will be sent from the people of Lahore.—Reuter.

AMERICAN NAVAL INCREASE

New York, To-day.

"The International situation, in conjunction with Far Eastern conditions, presents the threat of a world conflagration."

So declared Admiral Stark, Chief of Naval Operations, appearing before the House of Representatives naval committee yesterday.

Admiral Stark urged Congress to approve a \$1,300,000,000 increase in the Fleet.

He testified that "If the United States does not take immediate action towards increasing the strength of the Fleet, the end of the present war will find us in a relatively weak position."

LARGER SHIPS

Admiral Stark's testimony indicates that the expansion programme has been revised since it was first announced to provide for some larger ships than originally contemplated.

Hearing of the expansion programme opened with a brief preliminary statement by Secretary of Navy Charles Edison, who declared he believed a 25 per cent. increase in the Fleet's size was needed "in view of the international situation."—Reuter.

given tangible indication of the people and Government with Finland.

The American Red Cross and private organisations have given medical, financial and other help, and they are consulting with Finnish agencies regarding the most effective manner in which such aid may be continued and expanded. — Reuter.

AMERICAN AID FOR FINLAND

Washington, To-day.

The United States Government has informed the League of Nations that American organisations are consulting directly with Finland regarding the request for material and humanitarian assistance.

The Note, which was handed to the League by the U.S. Minister at Berne, says the United States Government from the outbreak of hostilities has

OFF THE RECORD

By Ed Reed



ED REED 10-14-39
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INEXPENSIVE SATISFYING

BRITAIN'S NEED OF AN ECONOMIC GENERAL STAFF

London, To-day.

BOTH THE "MANCHESTER Guardian" and the "News Chronicle" are concerned over the too complacent conduct of the economic war.

In Germany, this question has naturally received the most careful attention and in some quarters in Britain amusement and satisfaction has been aroused at the state to which the Germans are reduced.

An eminent authority, however, suggests that the Germans are actually consuming less than they are producing.

The "Manchester Guardian" says that against such an enemy we, too, must show we that are capable of great sacrifices. The ruler of Germany is master of vast resources. All the energies of his nation have been bent to one task, that of creating military strength.

The youth of Germany has been trained as never youth has been trained since the days of Sparta. Many in Britain do not realise that if we are to defeat Hitler we must be prepared for revolutionary changes and large sacrifices, says the "Manchester Guardian."

ECONOMIC GENERAL STAFF

The "News Chronicle" discusses the little attention paid by the responsible Ministers to the question of conserving and using our resources.

Goering, the new Nazi economic dictator, is now equipped with an Economic General Staff. Britain needs more readiness for trying out innovations, and a readiness for change and sacrifice — an economic general staff for Britain. — Reuter.

BANK OF ENGLAND RATES

LONDON, TO-DAY.

YESTERDAY'S ALTERATIONS IN THE BANK OF ENGLAND'S OFFICIAL EXCHANGE RATES ARE VIEWED BY BANKING CIRCLES AS A PROBABLE RESULT OF PRESURE BY COMMERCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

For some time these institutions have believed that the spread between buying and selling rates was unjustifiably large.

Authoritative quarters stress that the decision to reduce the spread is in no way connected with yesterday's new regulations regarding the transfer of Sterling from resident to non-resident accounts.

The new rates merely represent a return to greater normalcy in quotations such as prevailed prior to supersession of the free market by the official quotations.—Reuter.

JEWISH REFUGEES ARRESTED

Haifa, To-day.

Over 500 Jewish refugees from Germany and other countries were arrested on Sunday within Palestine territorial waters.

A schooner with 360 refugees on board was towing another sailing vessel with 160 on board. —Reuter.

COVERED WAGGON IN GERMANY

Berlin, To-day.

The official Nazi news agency announces that 40,000 repatriated Germans from former eastern Poland have arrived at Lodz, where they are accommodated in camps.

The first contingent of Germans from former north and central Poland, many of whom made the journey in horse-drawn vehicles, have also arrived at Lodz.—Reuter.

FAR EAST SHARES STRONGER

London, To-day.

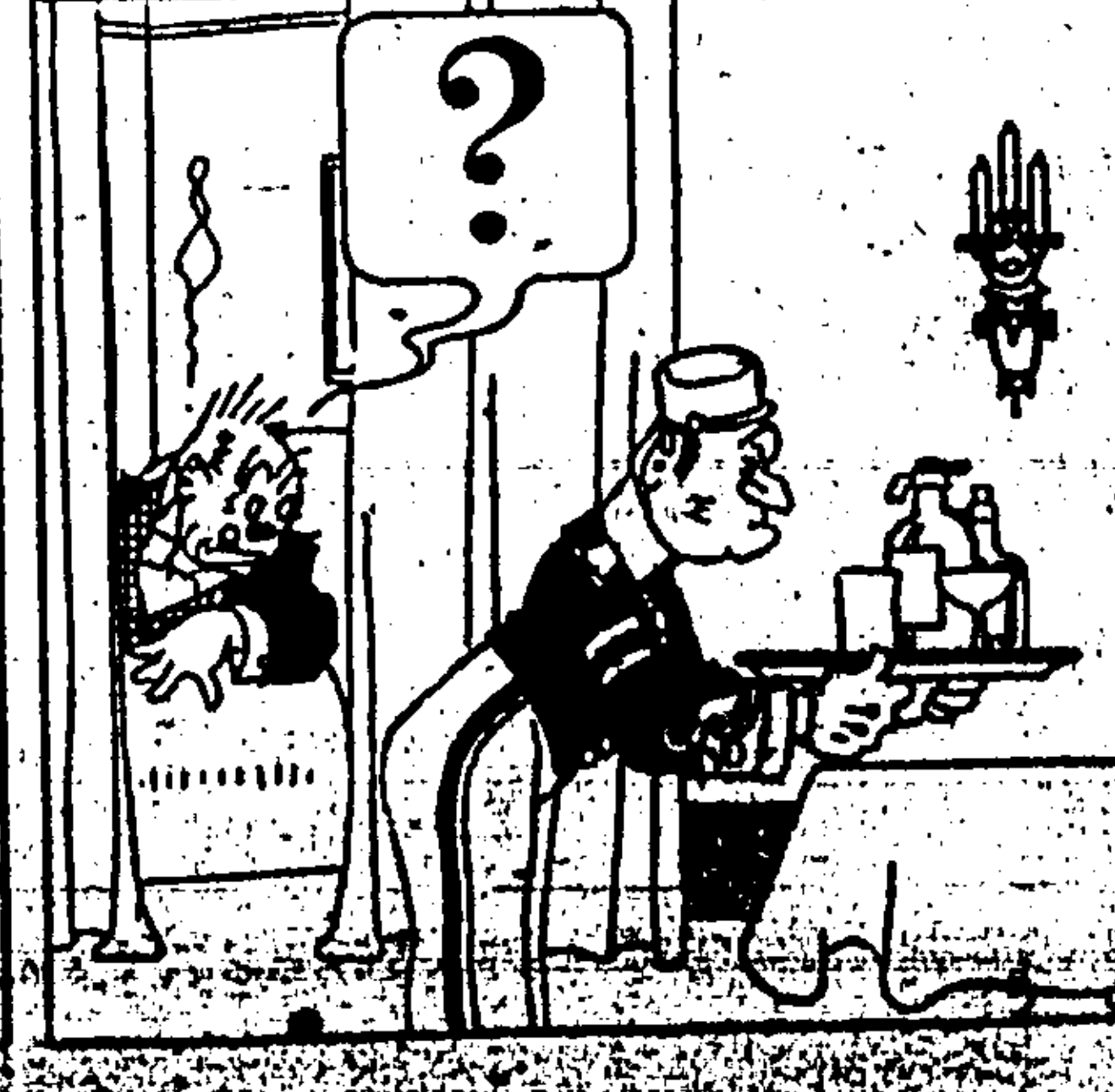
The Stock Exchange was initially hesitant yesterday owing to the recent political reshuffle, but the upward movement was quickly resumed under the lead of gilt-edged securities, which closed higher on a further influx of buying orders.

Indian Government bonds encountered demand, while Far Eastern issues were notably stronger.

Wall Street was steady. — Reuter.

Bringing Up Father

By George McManus





No, not a "tin fish," but one of a series of sharp-edged floats which, strung on a line and pulled by a speeding war vessel, cuts through wires holding down mines, forcing the latter to come to the surface and be destroyed. (Copyright, Fox).

MOSCOW-BERLIN AIRLINE

Moscow, To-day.
The Moscow radio announces that a Soviet passenger plane has left Moscow on the first trial flight in the new Moscow-Berlin air service.

The report says that a German plane will fly to Moscow on January 12 and the regular service begins on January 21 via Minsk, Koenigsberg and Danzig. —Reuter.

SOLDIERS DETAINED

Two British soldiers were arrested and detained by the Police yesterday, in connection with the incident in Mr. T. B. Wilson's residence on Sunday morning.

The men were still in custody this morning although no charges had yet been preferred against them.

On Sunday morning at about two o'clock, Mr. Wilson, residing at No. 143, Waterloo Road, was awakened by a noise in his bedroom. He found two soldiers in the room.

After they had left, Mr. Wilson found two watches missing and reported the incident to the police.

40,000 U.S. PILOTS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Washington, To-day.
The Civil Aeronautic Authority's first annual report to Congress revealed that the number of licensed pilots will reach 40,000 before the end of the year.

The Committee demanded an appropriation of \$125,000,000 for the development of airfields in the United States.

The report emphasised that passenger transport increased by 54.9 per cent. over last year, goods transport by 49.7 per cent. and mail transport by 12.5 per cent.

The report pointed out that the building of new aerodromes will be an important addition to the defence system of the United States. —Havas.

TRADE TALKS ABANDONED

Washington, To-day.
It is officially announced that the United States and Argentina have agreed to abandon completely the negotiations for a trade treaty, which broke down last week.

The State Department ascribes the failure of the negotiations to the impossibility of reaching an agreement on the subject of customs quotas for typical Argentine exports such as mutton and tinned beef. — Reuter.

GAMBLERS FORFEIT BAIL

The Treasury benefited to the extent of \$340.40 this morning when a number of Chinese were charged at the Central Magistracy before Mr. T. J. Houston, for keeping a common gambling house and gambling at No. 491 Queen's Road West, yesterday.

The keeper, Li Tung, 32, unemployed, who failed to appear in Court, had his bail of \$100 estreated, while 47 others who were gambling in the premises had their bail of \$5 each estreated.

Detective Sergeant R. McVey told the Court that the people were playing dice when the Police raided the house.

A sum of \$5.40 which picked up during the raid was donated to the pool box.

SINGAPORE'S PROSPERITY

Vessels berthed at the Singapore Harbour Board's wharves during the year ending June last numbered 3,121, with a net tonnage of 9,793,293 tons.

Although it is the Naval, Army and Air Bases which attract public attention, Singapore, it should be remembered, is the business and shipping capital of South-East Asia. Over fourteen million tons of shipping use the port every year.

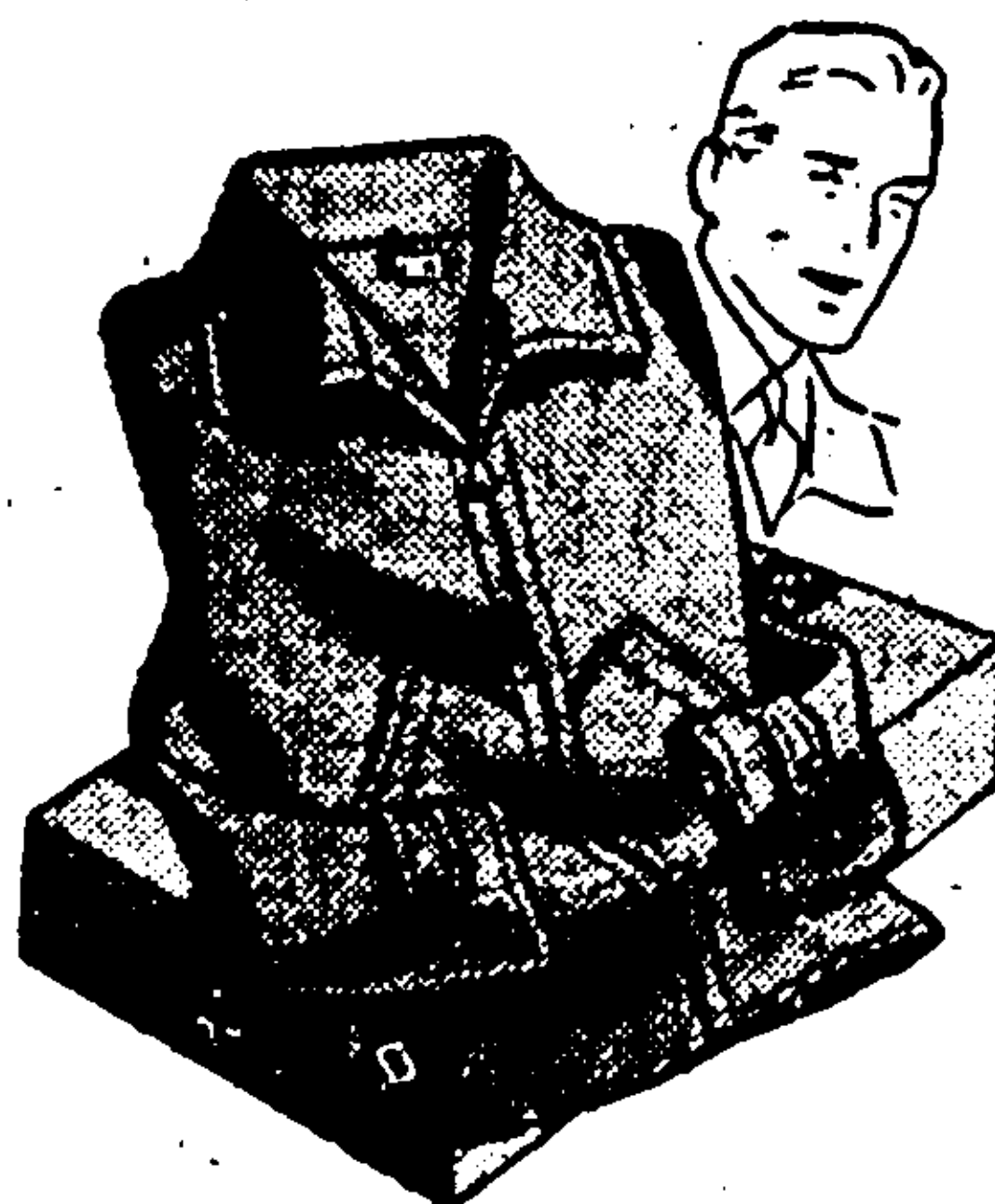
The Singapore Harbour Board's wharves, ship repairing facilities, and ancillary services, exceed £8,500,000 for repairs last year, of a total gross in value. There are five dry docks and in the shops repairs can be effected to the largest vessels afloat. Two hundred and eighty vessels were dock-tonnage of 2,558,681 tons.

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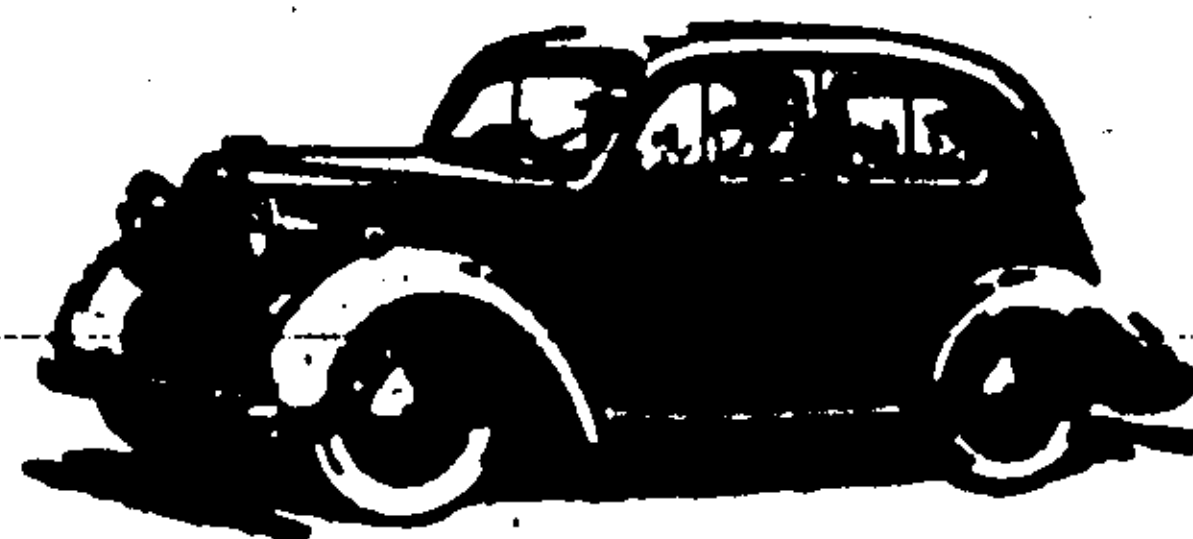
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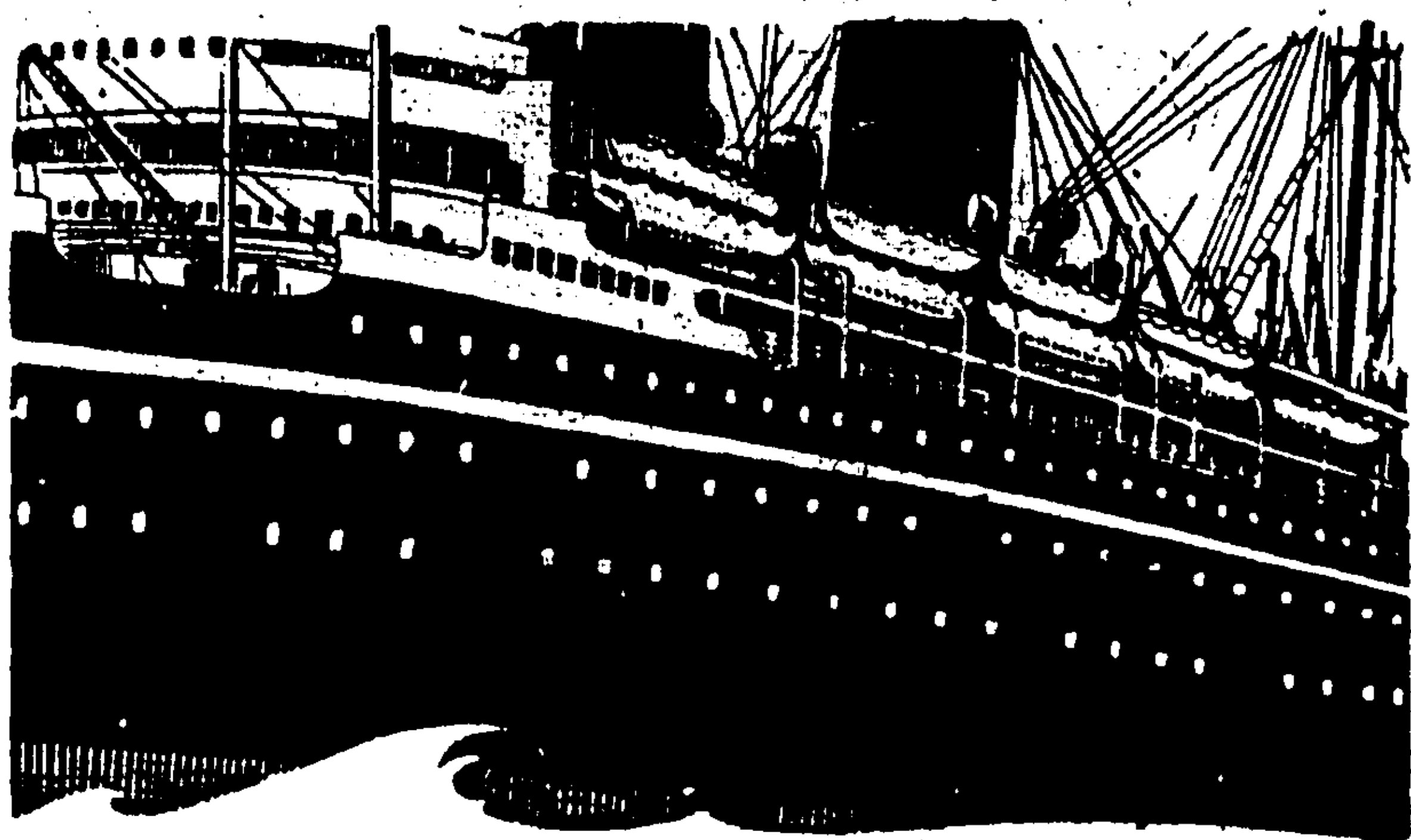
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MANCHUKUO HIT BY WAR: GERMAN IMPORTS STOPPED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Shanghai, To-day.

A NEUTRAL REPORT from Dairen states that the Manchukuo exports and industry have been seriously influenced by the European war. The main reason is the limited possibilities of exporting soya beans to Germany.

When Manchukuo signed the Trade Treaty with Germany a few years ago, based on the Manchukuoan Five Year Plan, it was understood that Manchukuoan industry was to be built up with German machinery and materials, while the main barter product was to be soya beans.

As a sequel to the European war, Manchukuo is able to ship only small quantities of soya beans to Germany, hence German exporters have stopped their exports of machinery, chemicals, dye-stuffs, etc.

Thus the economic situation in Manchukuo has become difficult for two reasons; firstly, large quantities of soya beans remain unsold; secondly, many factories are vainly waiting for machinery and chemicals.

Manchukuo attempted to use neutral ships for shipping soya beans to Rotterdam, but the exchange restrictions both in Germany and Manchukuo prevented repetition of this experiment. — Havas.

PUTTING AN END TO HITLERISM

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Washington, To-day.

Speaking at the "National Council of United Palestine," the French Ambassador, Count Boynel de Saint Quentin, stated that one of the Allies' aims was to put an end to the persecution of millions of people.

"We will never consent to hundreds of thousands of people being considered outlaws in a country in which they spent centuries," said Count Saint Quentin.

Mr. Frank Murphy, newly appointed Justice of the Supreme Court, also spoke and emphasized that discrimination against any religion was intolerable in a civilized world.

Mr. A. Duff Cooper, former First Lord of the Admiralty, insisted that the Allies find a solution to the Jewish problem in Palestine. — Havas.

IRISH POLITICAL TRUCE

Dublin, To-day.

Dr. Hyde, President of Eire, has nominated six additional members to sit on the Council of State.

They mostly belong to Mr. Cosgrave's opposition party.

Observers see in the appointment closer political co-operation between the Government and the opposition parties, and some quarters even suggest it may foreshadow a national government, with the object of overcoming present difficulties. — Reuter.

KING ANANDA IN SWITZERLAND

Zurich, To-day.

The 14-year old King of Siam, accompanied by his mother and his brothers, has arrived in Switzerland on a holiday. — Reuter.

ATLANTIC AIRLINE

London, To-day.

The British Overseas Airways Corporation is sending a technical expert to the United States, Canada and Newfoundland in anticipation of the opening of a trans-Atlantic air service in June from Britain. — British Wireless.

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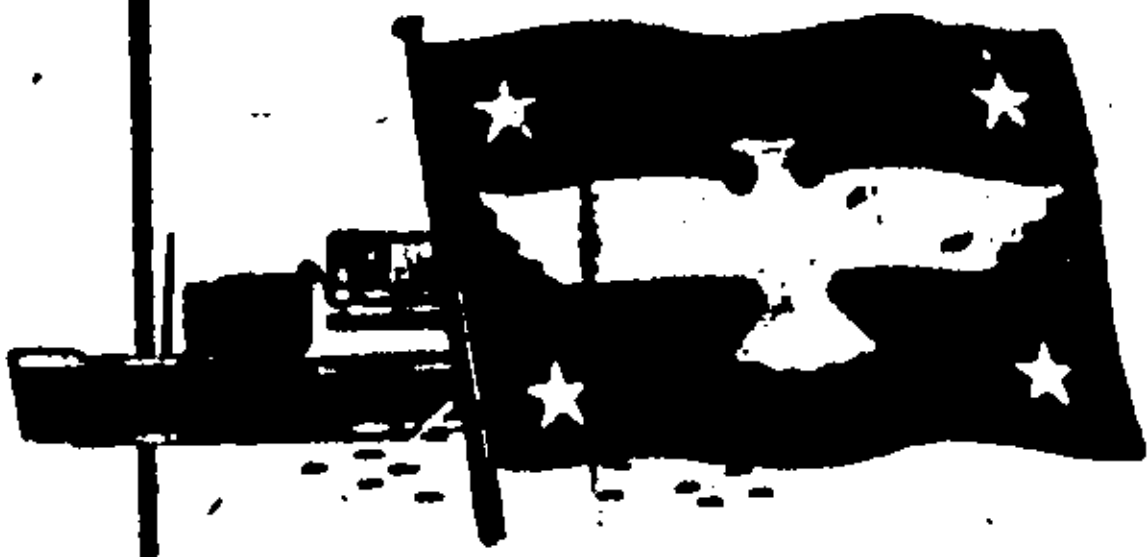
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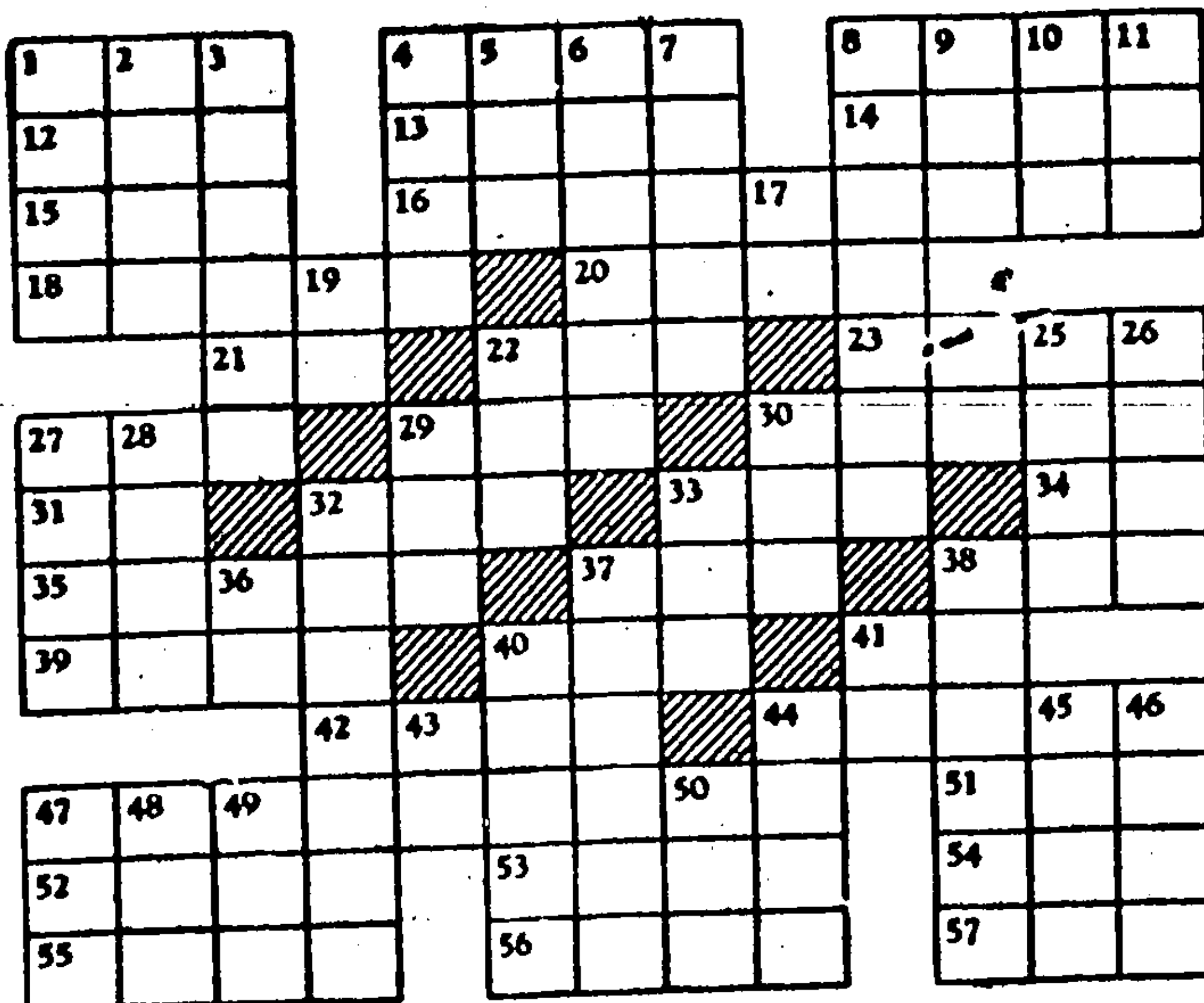
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HORIZONTAL

- 1 Quarrel
- 4 Chinese society
- 8 To scorch
- 12 French for "friend"
- 13 Sandarac tree
- 14 Pit
- 15 Hindu weight
- 16 Honourable
- 18 Arrogance
- 20 Greek seaport
- 21 Not any
- 22 Dexterity
- 23 Jewel weight
- 27 To loiter
- 29 Insect
- 30 To deserve
- 31 Preposition
- 32 Jot
- 33 Offspring
- 34 Artificial language
- 35 Fixed gaze
- 37 To cut short
- 38 To bedeck
- 39 Web-like membrane
- 40 To howl

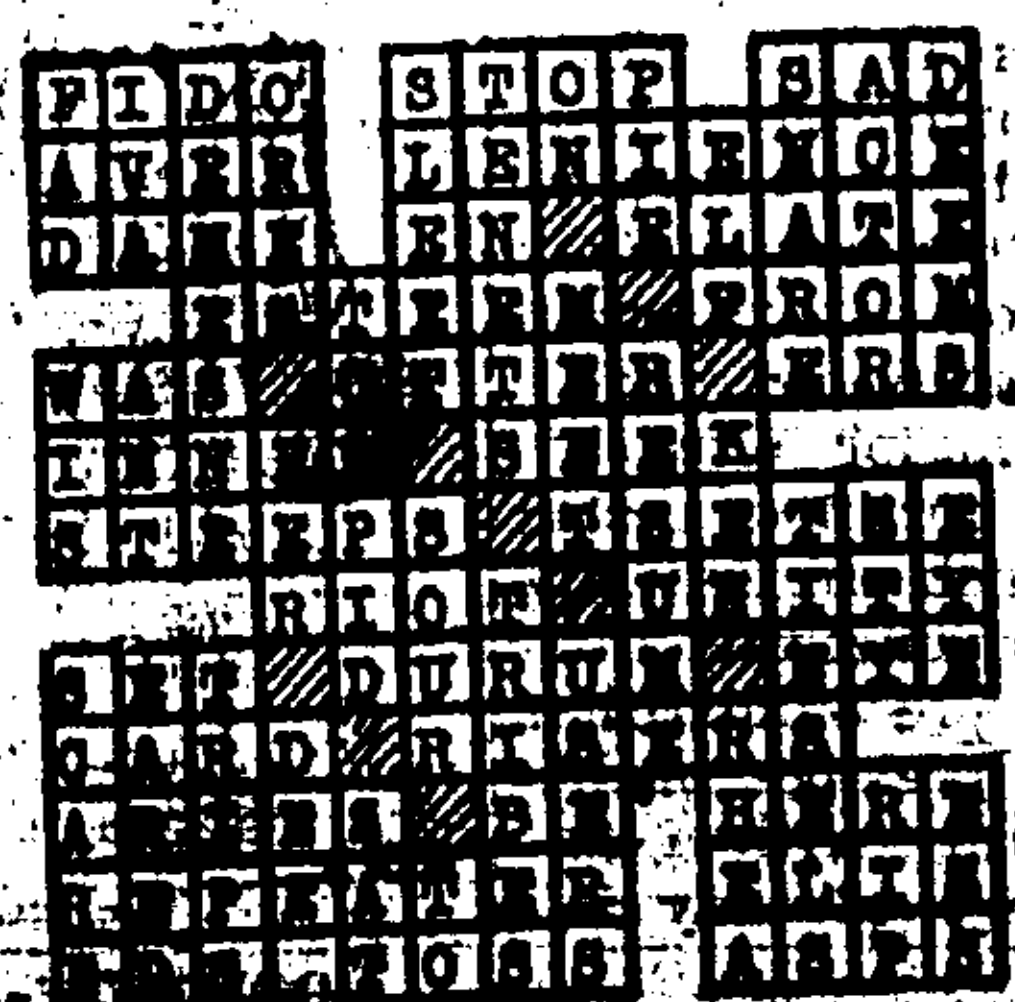
VERTICAL

- 41 Note of scale
- 42 Substantive
- 44 Flowed
- 47 Young bird
- 51 Man's name
- 52 Incomparable
- 53 Celt
- 54 Insect egg
- 55 Sterile
- 56 Heraldic device
- 57 Turn right

- 1 To scrape
- 2 Hebrew measure
- 3 Telegraphing
- 4 Biblical weed
- 5 Metal
- 6 Household linen
- 7 Guttural sound
- 8 To censure
- 9 Nave

- 10 Wholly
- 11 Female ruff
- 17 Toward
- 19 Note of scale
- 22 Music: high
- 24 Conjunction
- 25 Italian money
- 26 Small particle
- 27 To incline
- 28 Poker stake
- 29 For shame!
- 30 Unruly crowd
- 32 Marked
- 33 Chinese bean
- 36 Mulberry
- 37 Caste of Hindu merchants
- 38 Looking steadily
- 40 To protrude
- 41 Behold!
- 43 Whig poet
- 44 To make eyes
- 45 Indian tribe
- 46 Tropical fruit
- 47 Monk's title
- 48 Malay gibbon
- 49 Silk worm
- 50 Clear

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FOURTH WEEK OF JANUARY

FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY

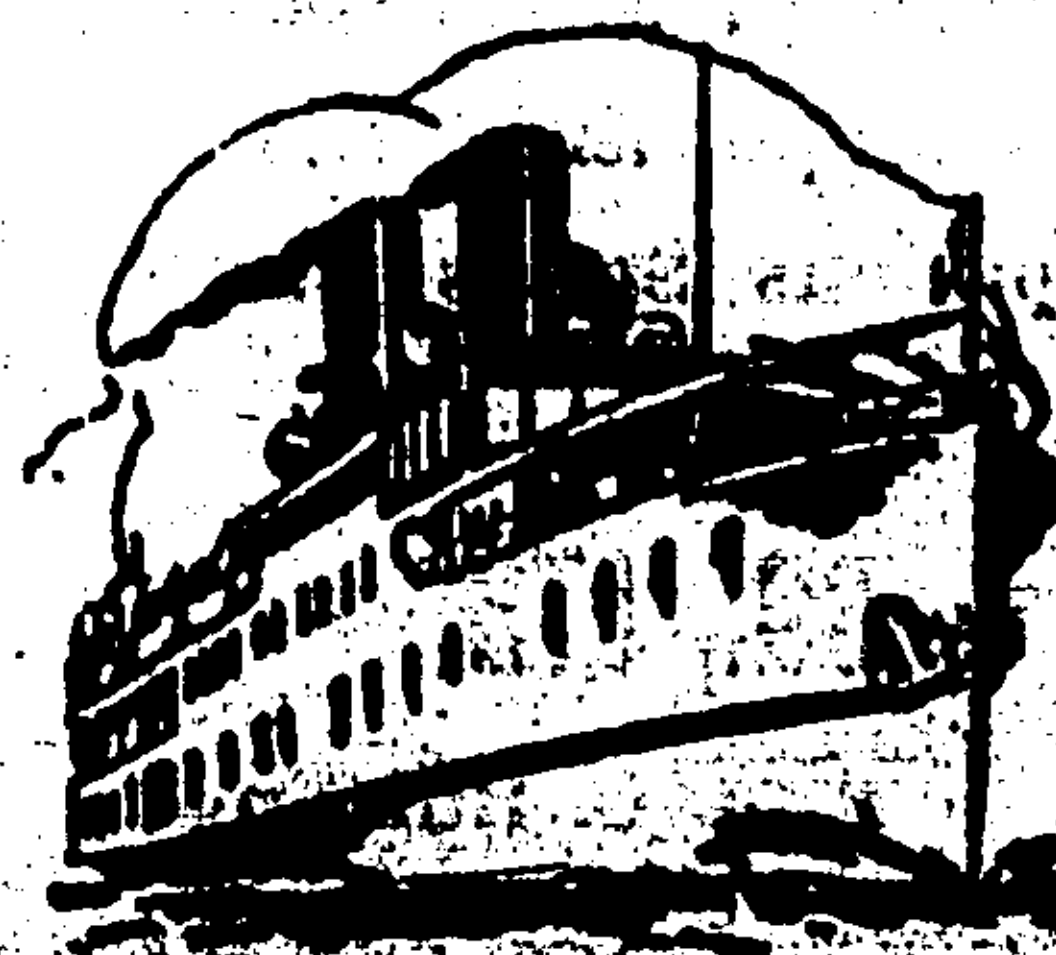
SECOND WEEK OF JANUARY

FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY

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RED ARMY ON FINNISH FRONT

"TRAGIC WRETCHES"

MOST MISERABLE LOOKING MEN IN UNIFORM

(By Leland Stowe, our Special Correspondent
in Finland. By Telegram)

Karelian Isthmus, To-day.

The Russian troops which the Kremlin High Command has thrown against the eastern side of the Karelian bottleneck are probably the most miserable looking creatures to be seen in uniform in this part of Europe since Napoleon's half-starved tatterdemalions straggled back from Moscow. The only differences seem to be that Bonaparte's men were largely excellent soldiers whereas Stalin's conscripts have straggled up from Leningrad to fight the Finns without a shadow of adequate training for their very tough job.

This is not anti-bolshevist propaganda, but hard fact. It may go far to explain the extremely unflattering showing which the Soviet forces have made against the Finns in the war. It is also possible that it does not apply to all the Red infantry employed on this 750 miles front. But there is no denying the testimony of your own eyes.

Repeatedly we have seen and talked to Russian prisoners at the moment they were just brought in from the lines. Fellow correspondents have conversed with other Soviet infantrymen on two other points of the western side of the isthmus. All important details of these Red prisoners were identical as to appearance and condition. It is impossible to describe them otherwise than as helpless tragic

wretches. Looking at them I wondered whether Soviet Russia could possibly be as hollow a shell as these poor devils seemed to indicate. I also wondered whether Josef Stalin, instead of being the diabolically clever dictator we have heard so much about, was simply crazy.

These were samples of the army which Moscow sent out to conquer all Finland—as one of them later explained—by December 23, as a birthday present for Stalin. The Finnish Colonel led us into the room where prisoners sat with their heads bending forward like typical hobo derelicts in a Borough Court.

"These are the men who are supposed to bring us culture," he said curtly.

All wore steel helmets with the red Soviet star painted on them. All but a few had faces of men who had never had a chance in life, of simple workmen who were minuscule parts in a gargantuan incomprehensible machine. The twisted features of six of them were definitely subnormal. The seventh's eyes gleamed continuously with a wild fanatical light. The Russians were army overcoats, of cheap part-wool mixture and uniforms of quilted cotton—the latter peculiarly suitable for pneumonia traps at 60 degrees north in mid-December! None of the men we saw possessed high boots, but they have ordinary shoes and several of them as a result had their feet so frozen that they could scarcely walk. Another of the Red prisoners seen by our colleagues had shoes so shabby that his toes stuck out.

One of the correspondents questioned the prisoners in Russian and without any interpreter. None of them admitted belonging to the Communist Party. All said they were reservists, mostly of the 1925 class, and had been called up only three months ago. Although from different points of Russia by birth they had all been employed in the Leningrad district. They said they had been told that the Finns had attacked the Soviets and that they must fight to protect Leningrad from the capitalist invaders.

We asked a Leningrad restaurant waiter whose name was Dimitri about his cotton uniform.

"No, it is not warm," he said.

"Don't you freeze?" we asked.

"It all depends on how cold it gets," he replied, with the only faint trace of humour discernable in any of the seven, "Yes, very many are frozen, we all have frozen feet."

Dimitri also told us what the Russian soldiers are being fed on as fighting rations in this bitter northern winter. Once a day a bowl of barley porridge, he said, and about two and a half pounds of bread for five men or half a pound apiece per day.

"They told us we would get 35 grams of meat a day, but we never got it," Dimitri said. He is still carrying a tiny bag of tobacco two-thirds empty. He said he had been issued four such rations of tobacco during his three months in the Russian army.

What about pay? One of the prisoners declared that when drafted he had been promised half the amount he was earning as stevedore, i.e. one ruble, forty-five, "I have only got ten roubles," he said dully. We pried out of him the fact that he had left his wife and his three children in Leningrad.

Most of these men were between 37-40 and most had one or several children. Tears ran down the cheeks of one man when first he was asked a direct question. They had deserted together by crossing the Taipale River at night in boat.

The Red prisoners said they had been well treated by the Finns, nor was there any indication to the contrary. They were simply pitiful human wrecks—nearly without hope—creatures who obviously had been cowed long before they ever crossed the Finnish lines. They were painful to look at, painful to converse with—surely among the most discrediting articles any government could export in its army.

Since this type of Soviet soldier has been taken prisoner from one side of the Karelian Isthmus to the other, the Finns have been completely mystified by the calibre of the Soviet troops which have been fighting here. They do not understand how the Karelian could send such ill-equipped, half-trained men into a major offensive against the strongest fortified sector of Finland and one which strategically is the most difficult to penetrate. Finnish officers are even more baffled that Stalin could risk the prestige of his much-extolled Red Army with a definitely large percentage of very inferior troops.

The Finnish Colonel in command

on this eastern side of the isthmus said to us: "The men who attacked here are no army. They are cannon fodder, but no soldiers."

"When the Red tanks came forward," he said, "the Russian soldiers tried to hide behind them. Such an infantry we have never seen. Maybe the Soviet have an infantry which attacks by itself, but until now we have not seen it."

The Finnish officers insist that the Russians are afraid to move in the forests at night and many of their simple-minded soldiers are convinced that the Finns are in league with evil spirits, thereby explaining how the Finns glide noiselessly through the forests by day and night and raid their camps like American Indians. According to general testimony, the Russians have no stomach for this type of warfare, a method in which the Finns are masters.

Any number of Finnish officers told us that the political army of the OGPU was extremely active behind the Russian infantry. When the Reds were replaced they often heard machine-guns soon afterwards in the Soviet rear. One captured Red army sergeant is quoted as saying: "It is impossible to fight when being shot at from both front and rear." Perhaps this helps to explain the dispirited groups of prisoners we interviewed here.

In some sectors, fresh troops replaced those which the Russians first threw into the war in the Karelian Isthmus. Presumably some of the new Soviet forces must have been drawn from regular infantry and it may be that the Russian units will make a much better showing before long. But they will now be compelled to attack Finnish positions which are carefully chosen and expertly prepared for defensive warfare—and they will have lost entirely the possibility of developing momentum for their thrusts.

To most observers it appears that Stalin tried to break through a first-class army in a highly fortified position with fourth-class troops—having failed dismally, he will soon have to use the best human material he has got. The Finnish officers are unanimous in declaring they cannot understand why Soviet Russia chose the last day of November to launch a war in snow-protected Finland. It remains incomprehensible to them that the Russians should have attacked at first with "cannon fodder" instead of real soldiers.

The Finns are about ready to believe that after all Stalin is crazy—or perhaps that, like Hitler, he has merely found a von Ribbentrop.

(World Copyright)

LOCAL DOLLAR

The demand rate on the Hong Kong dollar to-day was 1/2 13-1/6.

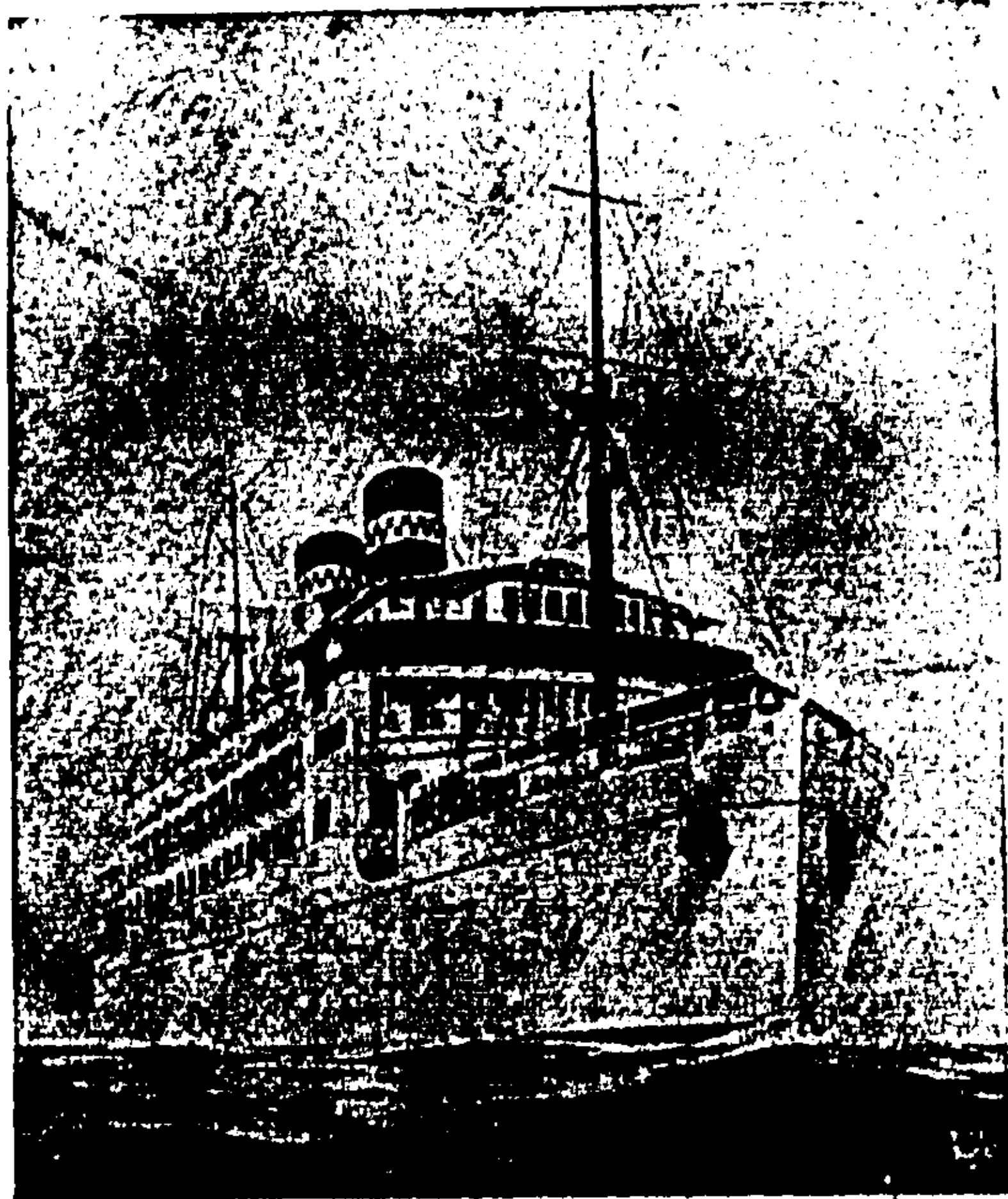
Silver was quoted at 21-13/16 for spot and 21-3/4 forward.

The London on New York rate was quoted at £ — U.S.\$4.02 and the New York on London rate at £ — U.S.\$3.95.

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THE HOPKINS MANUSCRIPT

(Continued from Page 6)

Cranley.

On the afternoon of New Year's Eve I helped to strap her luggage upon the back of Robin's old bicycle, for the chain of her own had broken with age.

I walked with her to the crest of the downs. I waved to her until she was out of sight upon the road to Mulcaster, and returned to my home alone.

For a little while I sustained myself with one grim resolve. Fiercely I told myself that Pat and Robin would soon return: fiercely and desperately I worked to keep our little estate prosperous and worthy of their homecoming. I told myself that they might return quite unexpectedly—if only for a few days' leave—and I devoted my whole life to that one abiding thought.

Twice I had letters from Pat, and once from Robin. Pat was working in a big derelict factory, converted into a hospital, at Antwerp; and most of her companions were French and German girls. "We are terribly busy," she wrote, "and horribly short of the things we need. All the armies are moving eastward now—away from the moon—and we hear the strangest rumours."

Robin sent me a brave, cheerful letter from "somewhere in Austria." It was written on a scrap of tattered, dirty paper. "We are an awful looking crowd of ragamuffins... there's been some kind of alliance, because there are Germans and Spaniards and Frenchmen all fighting with us... we had our first scrap yesterday... a crowd of black men came swarming out of a forest... our guns are awful, but we put up a good show... I could do with a couple of good fresh Beadle eggs... I'm longing for

WANTED

WANTED: One or two single unfurnished rooms with private bath, kitchen, etc., at the beginning of March for a working girl. Rent must be cheap. Preferably Kowloon side. Apply Box No. 149 c/o "The China Mail".

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The Undersigned have received instructions from Liquidators and others to sell by Public Auction on

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Hong Kong, 9th Jan., 1940.

the day when it's all over and I come home . . ."

I spent hours in those winter evenings writing long letters to Pat and Robin. I told them all manner of little details; some so trivial that I felt almost silly to write them down, but I felt somehow that it would amuse and cheer them.

During that winter the last semblances of organised life passed into memory: the towns were back once more in the chaos that followed the moon's fall. The Mulcaster electricity supply was gone for lack of fuel and my radio died with it.

I used to send Jim, a boy from the village who worked for me, to Mulcaster now and then in the hope of securing news. I sent him with a few eggs or vegetables in an endeavour to exchange them for candles and oil, but usually he returned empty handed with vague rumours that the army was fighting "black men" and getting beaten every day. Government control had gone with the collapse of communications and the silencing of radio, but the "War Ministry" still scoured the country with lorries in a hunt for able-bodied men.

One day I sent Jim to Mulcaster and he did not return.

I do not know when the conviction first came to me that I must leave my home. It may have been upon that bitter January morning when I ploughed through the snow to find my dear old Broodie dead beneath her perch. The passing of Broodie seemed to break my last link with Beadle, for day by day I grew more certain that my sanity depended upon escape from this overwhelming solitude.

The idea came to me quite suddenly, and I wondered why I had never thought of it before.

I would go to London!—to Notting Hill—to the house of Uncle Henry and Aunt Rose! There were certain to be some people in that great city: there would be news: possibly some semblance of organised society.

It was no use trying to send a letter in advance, and our solitary train had long ceased running. I would have to walk, but I would do so leisurely, taking ten days to cover the seventy miles. I fixed upon the first of June, when the days were long and the nights were warm.

On my last night I wrote a long letter addressed "To Pat or Robin" telling them where I had gone, giving them my address in London and asking them to come to me upon their return. "Then we shall all come back together," I ended, "and Beadle Valley will be like it was before you went away." I pinned the letter on the library table, drew the shutters over the windows and groped up the dark stairs to sleep the last night in my home.

TO-MORROW:

"Chaos — The End"



You no longer are of the younger generation if you think an occasional night of dancing until dawn is a sure detour to success.

LITTLE MAN, YOU'VE HAD A BUSY DAY!

"Encirclement" is still a magic word in Germany. It has become a movable menace, however. The "Voelksischer Beobachter," official Nazi newspaper, publishes the headline: "England's Encirclement of Russia."

WEATHER REPORT

The Royal Observatory reports that the anticyclone over China has increased considerably in intensity; pressure is highest to the north of Shantung.

The depression has deepened and is now centred to the north of Hokkaido.

Mrs. C. Russ, of No. 9 Kimberley Road, reported the loss of a wrist watch valued at \$50, between the Gloucester Hotel and her residence on the night of December 31.

DOCTOR CHARGED

A 50-year-old medical doctor, Li Ki-fong, was brought before Mr. R. A. D. Forrest at the Central Magistracy this morning charged with unlawful possession of poisons and possession of morphine at No. 1, Marsh Road yesterday.

It was stated that nine different kinds of poisons were found in accused's premises.

Mr. Alfred Y. Hon appeared for defendant, while Detective Inspector W. N. Darkins was present for the Police.

Defendant was remanded 48 hours for further enquiries, and was released on bail of \$500.

TROOP TRAINS COLLIDE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

Two trains bringing back soldiers on leave collided yesterday. Seven were killed and 18 injured.—Havas.

Reuter adds that the accident occurred near Orly on Saturday.

NEW ISSUE! The MARCH OF TIME

The story of the movies — yesterday, to-day and to-morrow!

THE MOVIES MARCH ON!

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SHOWING TO-MORROW!

AT THE ALHAMBRA

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Victor Sanders Recital

To-day's Wireless

Beethoven "Emperor" Concerto

6.00 p.m.—BEETHOVEN — Concerto No. 5 in E Flat Major, Op. 73 ("Emperor"). Artur Schnabel (Piano) and the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Dr. Malcolm Sargent.
6.38 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations.
6.40 p.m.—Fritz Kreisler (Violin) and Beniamino Gigli (Tenor). Gypsy Caprice (Kreisler); Shepherd's Madrigal (Kreisler) Fritz Kreisler (Violin) with Piano accomp. by Carl Lamson. Santa Lucia, I Long For You (Mario); Voice Of The Night (Curtis) Beniamino Gigli (Tenor) with Orchestra. Dancing Doll (Poldini-Kreisler) . . . Fritz Kreisler (Violin) with Piano accomp. by Franz Rupp.
7.00 p.m.—LONDON RELAY — "The Old Man of the Sea". A play from a short story by W. W. Jacobs.

ZBW 355 M. (845 k.c.'s) and 31.49 M. 9.52 Megacycles

7.30 p.m.—LONDON RELAY — The News.
8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.
8.03 p.m.—Lucienne Boyer (Vocal) and Orchestre Napolitain. Napoli — Tarantelle (Mezzacapo); Chant De Sirene (Volpatti, Junior) Orchestre Napolitain. Dans La Fumee (Bos); Parlez-Moi D'Amour (Lenoir) Lucienne Boyer (Vocal) with Orchestra. A Frangese! (Costa); Souvenir De Pausillippe (Andolfi) Orchestre Napolitain.
8.23 p.m.—Chabrier—Cotillon—Ballet Music. London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Antal Dorati.
8.40 p.m.—STUDIO—Recital by Victor Sanders (Baritone) with E. O'Neill

Shaw at the Piano.
1. (a) Sylvia (Oley Speaks); (b) Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal (Quilter); (c) O Mistress Mine (Quilter); (d) Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind (Quilter) . . . Victor Sanders (Baritone).
2. Piano Solo—Selected . . . E. O'Neill Shaw.
3. (a) Tally Ho (Leoni); (b) A Jolly Old Cavalier (Airlie Dix); (c) My Old Shako (Trottere).
9.05 p.m.—STUDIO — Comments on

Recent Events.
9.15 p.m.—LONDON RELAY — No Summary.
9.30 p.m.—LONDON RELAY—"Cats on the Table".
9.45 p.m.—Musical Comedy. "Stand Up and Sing"—Select (Furber, Ellis & Charig) Starita and His Band with Vocal Chorus.
"Rio Rita"—Vocal Gems (McCart & Pierney); "Follow Through"—Vocal Gems (De Sylva, Brov Henderson) Light Opera Company with Orchestra.
10.00 p.m.—An hour of Dance Music.
11.00 p.m.—CLOSE DOWN.



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ELIMINATING GUESSWORK

The correct or incorrect location of the trump Queen is the platform on which many a hand stands or falls. Sometimes however it is possible to eliminate the guess for the Queen of trumps.

North, Dealer
Both sides vulnerable
North-South 30 on score

♠ K 9 3
 ♥ A 8 2
 ♦ A 6 5
 ♣ K 10 7 4
 ♠ Q 6 2
 ♥ 9 7 5
 ♦ K J 3
 ♣ A Q J 8
 ♠ A J 10 8 6
 ♥ 10 6
 ♦ 10 8 7 4
 ♣ 8 3

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West opened a heart. South played low from dummy and East won with the Jack and returned the King. Declarer, with the second trick, with dummy's Ace, then trumped a heart. Next he led a club. West jumped in with the Ace and returned the Queen. After winning with dummy's King, Declarer trumped a club, then led a diamond. At the Ace and trumped dummy's last club.

At this point South was down to the Ace-Jack of spades and three diamonds. Now he simply played a

diamond. The defence cashed two diamond tricks, but it didn't matter now in the slightest which opponent held the trump Queen for it was bound to be trapped.

You were Howard Schenken's partner yesterday. Neither side was vulnerable and you held:

♠ Q 9 3
 ♥ A K Q 6 2
 ♦ J 7 6
 ♣ A Q

The bidding:

Schenken	Mr. Y	You	Mr. X
1♠	Pass	3♥	4♣
Dbl.	Pass	(?)	

ANSWER: Your correct bid is to pass. Mr. X. must be making one of those desperate, hopeless defensive bids and there is no limit to what you may set him.

Score 100% for pass, 0 for any other bid.

QUESTION NO. 303

♠ A K 7 6 3
 ♥ A 10
 ♦ K 10 3
 ♣ A J 5

(Dummy)

♠ Q J 9 5 4
 ♥ K 8
 ♦ 8 5
 ♣ K 10 8

You are Declarer at six spades and the Queen of hearts is opened. How should you play the hand? (Answer tomorrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate)

HUMAN CONTRABAND

LONDON, TO-DAY. REPORTS HAVE REACHED LONDON THAT CERTAIN SHIPPING AGENCIES ARE ENGAGED IN THE ORGANISED TRANSPORT OF EMIGRANTS TO PALESTINE.

There is reason to believe that intending emigrants are unaware that they will not be admitted into Palestine unless possessed of immigration certificates issued by the Palestine Department of Migration, and that if they arrive in Palestine without these certificates they are liable to serious penalties and deportation under Palestine law.

Ships on which immigrants travel at great expense to themselves are, it is alleged, small, insanitary and unseaworthy.

The captains and crews are also apparently unaware that by carrying passengers not legally entitled to land in Palestine they themselves are liable to arrest and heavy fines.

There is a report that the Second Officer of the Turkish steamer Sakarya, now at Sulina, has resigned his post because he engaged in this traffic and discovered the penalties to which he would be liable.

It is also reported that conditions on the Sakarya are very bad. There is no heating and there have been several dozen cases of pneumonia amongst the complement. — British Wireless.

REFEREES' MEETING

TACT IN REFEREEING

An appeal by Rev. Hinchcliffe to referees use more tact in the conduct of their games and think before taking the drastic step of ordering a player off the field was made at a monthly meeting of the Referees' Association held last night.

A plan of the Association's new club house which will be built on Wongneichong Road was shown to the members, and it was agreed to proceed with the scheme as the Association had acquired \$2,000 loan. Mr. Mitchell suggested that the annual fee be \$5, with so footballers as honorary members.

Mr. Goldenberg, of the Football Association, explained the method of allotting matches to the different classes of referees. After much discussion, Mr. Mitchell said he would withdraw the letter sent to Football Association regarding change in allotting matches.

PROMOTION FOR MR. C. E. GAUSS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")
Washington, To-day
It is authoritatively learned that Mr. Clarence Gauss, Consul-General for America in Shanghai, has been appointed First Minister to Australia. — Havas.

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CHAMPIONS' DECISIVE BADMINTON VICTORY

Oliveira And Silva Start Well But Fall Away

ARMY SPORTLIGHT

(By "SQUAD")

DESPITE last week-end being one of the worst in the history of football in the Colony many enjoyable games were held outside the 'battle zones.'

The 'Diehards' found the Hong Kong Police having an off day, and made good use of their advantage to net four goals without reply. Devonshire showed pleasing form at centre forward and is probably the best the Middlesex have in this position. Saw does not seem to be able to produce his best at the present time, but it is to be hoped that he is back at his best by the time the Army need him for representative games.

Royal Scots maintained their improved form, drawing with South China 'B' although almost losing owing to being a player short towards the end, Fleming having been given marching orders. Clarke, their left half gave a sparkling display, by far his best this season, and the fact that he was up against one of the best wingers in the Colony adds to the credit he gained from the game. Duncan again played a magnificent game and will be very unfortunate if he does not get a place in representative games this season, as he has done in the past two years.

In the junior divisions the tit-bit was the 'Derby' game between 30th Bty. and 8th R.A. Handicapped by the absence of one of their mainstay's, Purdue, 8th, R. A. were at a disadvantage and although his substitute played very well he could not be expected to reproduce the brilliance of Purdue. Guy is on his best form once more and Owens again gave a brilliant display on the wing and might solve the Army's wing problem if given the chance.

Ordnance rather surprisingly turned the tables on 5th R.A. in their second match of the season, taking the points by the odd goal in three. Main honours in this game go to Phillips, the Ordnance custodian, who played his best game this season and amongst others, saved a penalty.

R. A., for some reason, played Lawton at centre-forward but he was far from being a success, missing many chances and proving far too slow for the position.

R. A. O. C. were far from brilliant Emberson being the only one to produce anything like his best form. Munton in particular was poor, seeming hardly to have got over the festive season yet! McCadden, usually quite a good goalkeeper, was unreliable in the Gunners goal.

The Engineers continue to tread the winning path, easily defeating Kowloon. They scored seven without reply and Signals narrowly defeated R.A.F. by the only goal scored. Hutcheson, centre forward, who until recently played in the intermediate line, was again brilliant and his dash and initiative would be useful in any side.

It has been decided that the Large Units' hockey competition will start in March of this year. The favourites I presume will be the Rajputana Rifles, but the Kumaons also have their eyes on the trophy and should give the favourites a great run. I do not think any of the European sides will defeat either the Kumaons or Rajputanas, both of whom will leave their name in Hockey history in the Colony.

The Army 'B' Cricket side to play Craigprower on Saturday will

BRILLIANT EFFORT BY J.J. REMEDIOS

(By "ADREM")

STARTING OFF WITH a brilliant win in their first game and securing a lead of 13-5 in their second, Recreio "A" thereafter faded out of the picture in their "A" Division League badminton match against University "A" last night and lost by 8 games to 1.

The first six games produced some excellent badminton, the rallies being fast and keen, but after they had won University slackened off perceptibly, and, only playing at three-quarter speed, still managed to win the remaining three games.

Marcus Oliveira and A. M. Silva went away with a bang in the first game when they produced their best form to out-general and outplay the Colony doubles champions, P. K. Hui

and K. L. Yong.

The Recreio pair combined very well, Oliveira covering the rear of the court, for the most part, and handling all the smashing, while Silva played those deft angle-shots, at which he is so adept, at the net.

CHAMPIONS' POOR FORM
Hui and Yong could not get going. They were never able to combine, and individually, few of their strokes worked. They were never worth more than the 10 aces they secured.

It appeared at the outset that the next game would follow the same course. With J. J. Remedios striking some patches when he was absolutely unpassable at the net, and Carvalho smashing well, P. S. Bun and M. S. Lim were in a sorry state.

The Recreio pair continued to pile up aces until they appeared to have the game well in hand at 13-5, up to which period, they were the only pair on the court.

University staged a brilliant recovery and as both men settled down, Recreio smashes started to be returned; Recreio drop-shots were picked up consistently; Recreio services were successfully rushed.

Gaining more confidence as the margin narrowed, Bun and Lim were unstoppable towards the end and although Recreio got within an ace at 19-18, they were unable to get any further owing to poor serving.

THRILLING RALLIES
Carvalho and Remedios figured in another exciting game later in the evening when they held Hui and Yong in the early stages only to fall away after some thrilling rallies and lose 18-21. Remedios was easily the finest player on the court but Carvalho was inclined to be erratic.

Probably the most convincing University pair last night were C. K. Lee and H. F. Chew, who both played fine all-court games to win convincingly on each occasion.

Recreio can now be considered out of the running for honours which appear to rest between Chinese Y.M.C.A. and University whose meeting should produce badminton of the highest order.

M. A. Oliveira and A. M. Silva (Recreio) beat P. K. Hui and K. L. Yong 21-10
lost to P. S. Bun and M. S. Lim 13-21
lost to C. K. Lee and H. F. Chew 14-21
L. A. Carvalho and J. J. Remedios (Recreio)
lost to Hui and Yong 17-21
lost to Bun and Lim 18-21
lost to Lee and Chew 13-21
C. C. Pereira and H. F. Gonsalves (Recreio)
lost to Hui and Yong 10-21
lost to Bun and Lim 14-21
lost to Lee and Chew 10-21

FOR MORE DISTANCE

GRAPHIC GOLF



By BEST BALL

The golfer, who is not satisfied with the distance he is getting off the tee, might save himself a lot of yardage and worry by following Bobby Jones' prescription for more length. Jones, dissatisfied with the rapid rising shots, which would quickly soar to a peak and then drop to the green with very little roll, sought a remedy. At the time he was using a shallow faced driver and he substituted for this a deep faced one. The ball which he formerly teed low and hit down upon he now put on a standardised basis of one inch off the turf. Then standing to the ball so that it was situated forward off his left instep, he would strike the ball square in the back.

The clubhead, instead of coming down upon the ball abruptly, would sweep low along the ground in back of it and hit it at right angles straight ahead along the line of flight. Not only did such a ball bore through the air and winds ahead in more efficient fashion but a long roll would ensue, which added yards to his previous efforts.

WEDNESDAY— Putting To Wealth.

be as follows:—Brigadier, McLeod, Maj. Swyer, Capt. Lawrence, Lieut. Peal and Barrag, Capt. Whistler, Q.M.S. Patterson, S/Sgt. Gardner, Cpl. Eddy, Pte. Hooch and Gunner Barsby.

"A" DIVISION BADMINTON TABLE

	Games	P.	W.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Chinese Y.M.C.A.	2	2	0	18	0	4	
University "A"	2	2	0	16	1	4	
Recreio	3	1	2	8	19	2	
University "B"	2	1	1	7	10	2	
Chung Wah	8	0	3	4	23	0	

FOOTBALL MEETING

SAIGON OR SINGAPORE FOR HONG KONG?

It was announced at the monthly meeting of the Council that Hong Kong Football Association have written to Saigon and Singapore inviting teams from one of these ports to visit Hong Kong during the Chinese New Year to play a series of games here.

No reply has yet been received from Saigon, who were written to some time ago, and unless word is received from Singapore this week the project will be abandoned.

It was decided to give provisional permission to the Chinese Federation to stage two games during the holidays in aid of the B.W.O.P. and Hong Kong Chinese Athletics' War Relief Corps.

A request from the Hong Kong Chinese Journalists Association to stage a charity game on February 14 in aid of refugees was granted.

MATCH TO BE REPLAYED

The shield match between Electric and South China was ordered to be replayed as the latter had fielded two ineligible players through a misunderstanding.

It was decided that a protest from the Signals against the referee in their Shield game against the Royal Engineers should not be allowed as the decision of the referee was final on any point of fact during a game.

Overcrowding of grounds was again brought up and Clubs were asked to use more discretion in the matter.

The following were the draws for the Shield and Lai Wah competitions:—

SENIOR SHIELD

Police	v	Middlesex
Club or Royal Scots	v	Eastern
South-China "A"	v	Navy
South China "A"	v	St. Joseph's

JUNIOR SHIELD

South China "A" or	v	8th Royal Artillery
Electric	v	Kowloon or
30th Royal Artillery	v	24th Bty. R.A.
Eastern	v	Royal Engineers
International	v	Police

LAI WAH CUP

Army	v	Navy
		(Caroline Hill)
Civilians	v	Chinese
		(Navy ground)

HOCKEY

RADIO BEAT CLUB 2ND. XI

(By "SPORTSHAWK")

At King's Park yesterday afternoon, Radio Sports Club defeated Club second eleven in a friendly hockey match by two clear goals, all scored before the interval. Both sides were one short.

Club started attacking and got within shooting range but, owing to misunderstandings between their forwards, were unable to score.

C. Woolgar, at centre forward for Club, and W. Spencer combined well and went near scoring on several occasions, while J. V. Steven, in the pivotal position, and J. W. Farmington, left back, both worked very hard and spoiled well.

For the winners, Jaggett Singh and J. S. Grewal, the backs, gave stubborn

displays while their wing-halves, K. Hussain and Gurdal Singh, marked the losers' wingers very closely.

The forwards, particularly Mendonca, Gurbachan Singh and Karmila Singh, were undoubtedly superior to the losers, being faster and possessed of better ball control.

Mendonca scored the first goal as a result of a solo effort and netted the second from a pass from Karmila Singh on the right-wing.

Radio: K. Lim, Jaggett Singh and J. S. Grewal, K. Hussain, M. H. Hussain and Gurdal Singh (no right-winger), Karmila Singh, Gurbachan Singh, Victor Mendonca and Jaggett Singh.
Club: J. W. Farmington, J. V. Steven, W. Spencer, C. Woolgar, J. S. Grewal, K. Lim, K. Hussain, M. H. Hussain, Gurdal Singh, Gurbachan Singh, Victor Mendonca and Jaggett Singh.

SOFTBALL NOTES

U.S.S. TULSA UNOFFICIAL SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS!

(By "GRANDSTAND")

FANS AT King's Park and Prince Edward Road were treated to a very dull programme in both the Men's and Ladies' section of the League on Sunday.

The Recreio-Tulsa friendly tilt was the main attraction of the day and softball followers turned out in droves to watch the Mighty Tees nose out the Recreio Aces 9-8. The fracas went two extra innings before the issue was decided.

Johnny Alvares, Recreio star chucker, and "Snuff" Bailey, Tulsa's moundsman, exchanged pitch for pitch, but the Tulsamen were able to slap out ten hits to Recreio's six. Alvares struck out one and Bailey whiffed two. First on balls—Bailey six Alvares five.

Nine errors chalked up against Tulsa and six against Recreio showed that both teams were off colour and playing much below their usual standard. As one of the Recreio Bees remarked after the game, "Recreio's drama of errors and bonhead plays coupled with hard luck cost the Aces the game". How true! Tulsa's mentor Buck Young had a broad smile on his face when the hair-raising fray ended, but I don't think he was too pleased with his squad!

The count was knotted in the seventh 5-5. Recreio, who batted first, broke the knot in

the ninth with three tallies on one hit, three errors and a walk. In this stanza "Ski" Koslosky, at centre field, muffed two flies with handles on them bringing in three unearned runs. (How about a "bahsket" out there for next Sunday's game, Ski!?)

In their turn to bat Tulsa came back with a determined effort when Pete Peterson belted a Ruthian clout over right-fielder Zinho Gosano's head for the longest wallop seen on the Recreio ground.

"Rabbit" Rabbachi singled to right; "Snuff" Bailey popped to short for the first erasure. Junior Green got safe to first on a scratch to the pitcher and "Ski" Koslosky arrived at the initial station when "Rabbit" was forced out on third.

"Don't-get-hurt" Baker's sky-rocket was muffed by right-fielder Zinho Gosano which brought in Green and Koslosky for the tying runs and Baker romped all the way to third on the bobble.

With no-one covering the hot corner, Lino

Gosano, who turned out to be the goat of the encounter, handled the relay from brother Zinho and tossed a wild throw to third, for the bonhead that lost Recreio the game.

This gives Tulsa the best of two out of three to become the unofficial champs of Hong Kong and points south—and a case of beer!

Tony Alves, who played a gallant game at second base, rode in on the wings of Gerry Gosano's mighty circuit clout to left centre, in the third.

"Rabbit" Rabbachi tripled in the second, chasing in Jack Hoffman, and pilfered home later.

R. H. E.
Tulsa 0 2 0 1 0 0 2 4 - 9 10 9
Recreio 0 1 4 0 0 0 0 3 - 8 6 6

On the Recreio ground 3 M.C. made sure of their cellar position in dropping a 19-1 count to the Recreio Bees.

Charlie Manson prevented a shut out when he crossed the plate on a hit and was brought

SOFTBALL LADIES' SECTION

EASY WINS IN GIRLS' MATCHES

(By "GRANDSTAND")

In the opener at Prince Edward Road Wahoos had an easy 7-3 victory over the Pirates, and connected for nine hits off Maudie Read's offering, while the Bucs only accounted for one single, by Nozadzo, off Rozy.

It is evident that Rozy must have been practising a lot lately to hold the Pirate sluggers to one hit and striking out four.

Coach Winglee was evidently sure that flinger Rozy was on form and able to hold down the enemy, otherwise he would not have taken a chance! Just the same, when Pirates scored three runs in the fifth and the green-shirted owls were blanked in the seventh, Winglee put Terese Noronha on the mound in the seventh to make sure of a victory.

Maudie Read was not so fortunate on the slab. She was nicked for nine hits, including doubles by Terese Noronha and Jeanne Yelle.

The Pirates put up a good fight but they lacked the necessary oomph both on the field and with the willow wand.

R. H. E.
Wahoos 2 0 2 1 1 1 0 - 7 9 3
Pirates 0 0 0 0 3 0 0 - 3 1 4

In the second game Wildcats had their own way, burning the base paths to give the Baby Panthers a very convincing 22 to 4 wallop.

Irene Tavares pitched a grand game for the losers, but the "big Berthas" of the Wildcats, who slapped out no fewer than 19 hits, aided by 13 Panther bobbles, were too much a load for the diminutive flinger. Nevertheless she fanned five Wildcats and only walked three. Lily Mar allowed seven hits and walked three.

Doris Mar homered and Lily Mar tripled for the longest hits of the tussle. M. Campos was the only Panther who showed any prowess with the bat. She singled twice in four times to bat.

R. H. E.
Wildcats 4 6 5 0 7 0 0 - 22 19 8
Panthers 0 0 0 0 1 3 0 - 4 7 13

The nightcap saw Canadian Chinese drop the curtain, 17-6, on the Cardinals.

The game was featured by some heavy hitting on both sides. Jessie Wong, of the "Canucks," topped the heavy hitters with a triple and two doubles. Ullan Khoo clouted a round tripper, while Betty Longbottom, and the Louie sisters, Dot, Vivienne and Mary, connected for a double apiece.

The Redbirds are improving, however. They only booted six to the Canadians two! Mary Louie fanned and walked two and Babida struck out three and walked one.

R. H. E.
C.C.C. 2 2 6 4 1 2 x - 17 15 2
Cardinals 0 0 0 3 1 1 1 - 6 9 6

On the Club de Recreio ground Ramblerettes swamped Cubs 22-8 in a one-sided affair.

Cubs were outlitt 23-7 and miscued ten to the Rec. girls' five.

R. H. E.
Ramblerettes .. 6 1 4 7 3 1 0 - 22 23 8
Cubs 1 0 5 0 1 0 1 - 8 7 10

in by Norman Broadbridge's single.

R. H. E.
Recreio "B" ... 2 6 0 1 0 1 0 - 19 15 2
S.M.G. 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 1 7 12

Playing around and taking things easily, Canadian Chinese almost dropped a game to International Athletic Club. The "Maple Leafs" finally emerged victorious 4-3.

G. G. Lee started on the rubber for C.C.C. but Herbie Quon had to come to the rescue in the seventh. With bases loaded Herbie fanned two and E. D. Fisher was out at the home plate on Razack's easy grounder to the pitcher to end the game.

R. H. E.
C.C.C. 3 0 0 0 1 0 x - 4 6 5
I.A.C. 0 2 0 0 0 1 - 3 5 6

Bunting the Walkermen infield off their feet Chung Hwa took Hong Kong Baseball Club to town, 8-1. Knowing that the opposition was a weaker team the Chinese lads just fooled about to make the game a bit interesting.

Only Hongkongite tally came in when Silva scored in the fifth on a bunt and a miscue by Earl Wong at third base. Longest hit of the fray was Choy's triple.

Tuffy Chinn pitched for Chung Hwa and struck out three and walked two. Moithen, on the slab for H.K.B.B.C., fanned 2 and walked one.

R. H. E.
Chung Hwa ... 1 0 4 2 1 0 0 - 8 13 4
H.K.B.B.C. 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 1 1 3

Kenny Wong's English Forum are gradually creeping or crawling down on the Kungs Glee, who are resting down on the bed of the League's back. Victoria Recreation Club trounced them 8-1 in Sunday's nightcap.

Marcus Gahn almost pitched a no-run, no-hit game limiting the Forumers to one hit and one run.

Forum's only run was scored by Kitchell on three V.R.C. fullbacks in the seventh.

R. H. E.
V.R.C. 1 2 0 1 0 0 x - 5 8 4
Forum 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 1 0 2

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DECEMBER, 1939

Vol. IX, No. 5.

ARTICLES

Notes on Chinese Abroad in the Late Ming and Early Manchu Periods Compiled from Contemporary European Sources (1500-1760), by C. R. Boxer
Yuan Chi and His Circle, by T. K. Chuan
We Shall Live Again, by Lowe Chuan-hua

POEMS

Three Poems by Mai Wei-lin

CHRONICLE

Poetry Chronicle, by Ling Tai

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Lao Tzu's THE TAO and ITS VIRTUE (Continued).
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RIOT IN SOLDIERS CAMP

TWO CHINESE SOLDIERS, NAM TAK-FU (27) AND LO KUEN-TUNG (30), APPEARED BEFORE MR. E. HIMSWORTH AT KOWLOON MAGISTRACY THIS MORNING IN CONNECTION WITH THE RIOT IN THE NEW INTERNMENT CAMP IN ARGYLE STREET YESTERDAY AFTERNOON.

Nam, said to be the ring-leader, was sentenced to two months' hard labour, and Lo to three weeks' hard labour.

Mr. W. P. Thompson, A.S.P., Kowloon, who prosecuted, said the accused were told by a European sergeant in the camp to do some work and report at his office in the afternoon.

At 3 p.m. the Sergeant asked them why they had not reported. Accused started shouting and tried to strike the Sergeant.

Some 20 internees joined accused and, armed with bed boards, fought the police officers. The Emergency Unit was summoned.

Mr. Thompson tried to stop the riot and was attacked by second accused.

Mr. Thompson asked that a serious view be taken of the case. The riot started, he said, owing to bad feelings on the part of some of the internees against the European officers.

It was stated that during the riot two more internees and an Indian constable were injured.

U.S.-URUGUAY TALKS OFF

Washington, To-day.

It is announced that the trade negotiations between the United States and Uruguay have been terminated because the export trade of both countries is similar in important respects.

The American-Argentinian trade

MOSCOW MODERATES ATTITUDE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")
London, To-day.

Political circles here note with interest that despite continued attacks of the Soviet press against Britain, Soviet diplomatic circles here appear to be much more moderate of late.

Authoritative circles believe that Soviet Ambassador Maisky would leave London only in the case of complete diplomatic rupture, in which Russia is not taking the initiative.

It is noted that the firm attitude of the Powers, the help extended to Finland and the possibility of a development of American aid has impressed Moscow.

Political circles are satisfied with the signs of moderation in the Russian attitude, which they hope might take concrete form. — Havas.

MOLOTOV TO VISIT BERLIN

London, To-day.

It is expected that M. Molotov, the Soviet Premier and Foreign Commissioner, will visit Berlin early this morning to return the visit of Nazi Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop to Moscow.

This is according to the Polish bulletin of the French radio.—Reuter.

talks have also been broken off. — Reuter.

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Sazarpus
OPTICIAN

WORKLESS CALLED UP

Brussels, To-day.

The Belgian Cabinet has decided to call to the colours 8,000 unemployed.

The possibility is envisaged of mobilising 7,500 men with three or more children.

It has also been decided to authorise an extension of working hours except where unemployed can be engaged. — Reuter.

WE WONDER WHY

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Brussels, To-day.

The official German radio announces that all Czechs are to be freed from military service. They will thus not be compelled to participate in the present war.—Havas.

*** They will, however, play a prominent part on the Allies' side!

DALADIER IN ACCIDENT

Paris, To-day.

The Premier, M. Daladier, was the victim of an accident yesterday afternoon when he fractured his foot.

The fracture, however, according to a communique issued by the Premier's office, was satisfactorily reduced and M. Daladier immediately returned to

BRITISH GENERALS HONOURED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

PARIS, TO-DAY

AN IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY TOOK PLACE "SOMEWHERE ON THE FRONT," WHEN GENERAL GAMESIN DECORATED GENERALS GORT AND IRONSIDE WITH THE GREAT CROSS OF THE LEGION D'HONNEUR.

Mr. Winston Churchill and his son, Randolph, and General George, Chief of the French General Staff, were among those present.

Honours were rendered by British and French detachments selected from those who had distinguished themselves by bravery in action.—Havas.

NEW EIRE BILL

Dublin, To-day.

It is officially announced that the President, Dr. Douglas Hyde, has decided, after consultation with the Council of State, to refer to the Supreme Court the question of whether the Offences Against the State Bill, empowering the Government to intern people on suspicion, is repugnant to the Constitution. — Reuter.

his work at the Ministry of War.—Reuter.



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Rio de Janeiro, To-day.

The running fight between the British liner *Highland Patriot* and a German U-boat, reported earlier, lasted two hours.

The submarine, after firing three torpedoes, surfaced and a gun duel ensued, the submarine finally making off.

A Portuguese passenger on board the liner is reported dead. — Reuter.

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